CANADA'S

style at home

SPECIAL
2016 TRENDS ISSUE

high & low

GREAT STYLE FOR EVERY BUDGET

(*Plus,* fab finds to bring the looks home)

HOT NOW!
oversized pendant

steal THIS COVER LOOK FOR LESS

get ORGANIZED
THE DECORATED HOME OFFICE

TAKE A PAGE

COOK

Recipe inside.

OUT OF OUR

BOOK

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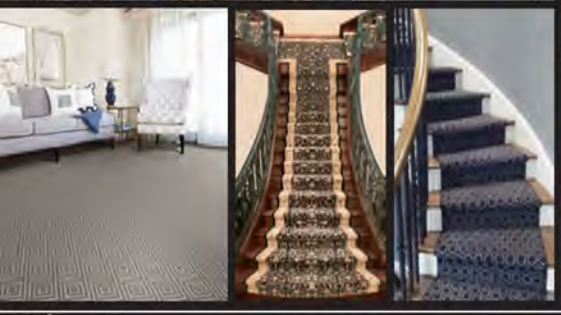

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COLLECTION

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Sears

See more of the Style at Home Collection, available exclusively at Sears and online at **sears.ca/styleathome**

styleathome JANUARY 2016

A girly glam home office with a bold accent wall.

HOMES

74 PARTY OF FIVE
A couple works together to build their first family home from scratch

80 LOVE IS IN THE AIR
How to decorate for the one you love (when the one you love doesn't exactly love decor)

86 BLUE AMBITION
Designer Olivia Hnatyshin has a case of the blues...but in the best way possible

COLUMNS

15 STYLE NEWS
The best home decor products, the hottest trends and the most inspiring ideas

20 TRENDSPOTTING
The new simplicity trend embraces slow living

22 HOUSEKEEPING
How to keep your garbage receptacle looking and smelling fresh

24 STYLE DESTINATION
What to see and where to eat in Chiang Mai, Thailand

26 FOOD NEWS
The latest and greatest gourmet products, kitchen gadgets and more

28 DESSERT OF THE MONTH
Deliciously moist banana bread brownies

30 DECORATING 101
A sophisticated ensuite combines classic elegance and contemporary flair

32 RENO OF THE MONTH
A gutsy renovation decision affords these homeowners a functional, modern kitchen

36 INSIDE DESIGN
How Canadian retailer Artemano brings furniture from faraway forests to our homes

40 HIGH OR LOW
A cozy reading nook on both a paperback and a hardcover budget. Can you tell the difference?

40

92

64

Layer black and neutral pieces to create a graphic wintry arrangement

DECORATING

46 EVERYWHERE WE LOOK
Trends come and go, but these four stylish accent pieces are here to stay

51 THE DECORATED OFFICE
Create a home office that's just as beautiful as it is functional

59 THE FASHION-FORWARD CLOSET
How designer and blogger Erica Cook styled her IKEA storage systems to look like high-end boutiques

64 IN PERFECT HARMONY
A family home in southern Sweden proves that contemporary design has a place in the quiet countryside

68 HOME ECONOMICS
Designer Orsi Panos gives this townhouse a colourful facelift on a modest budget

FOOD

92 POD CAST
Delicious recipes with beans at their heart – the perfect comfort food for cozying up to Old Man Winter

REGULARS

FROM OUR EDITOR 8
GET SOCIAL 13
WORKBOOK 96
DESIGN PINSPIRATION 98

TABLET EDITION
Get *Style at Home* for your iPad, with additional how-to video content, bonus image galleries and more. Download it on the App Store today.

ON THE COVER
An upscale bistro-style kitchen maintains a casual vibe **74**

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more or LESS

High or low? Can you tell the difference? It's a familiar refrain for our regular readers, who will recognize the title of our best-loved column. The concept, a one look, two ways room vignette that does it all for a high price tag and then again on a more modest budget, has been in the magazine almost since its inception 19 years ago, and those pages have become our signature. Fans tell us time and again how they're stumped by our guessing game (hint: the key is often in the details), and how they're inspired to combine splurges and saves in their own homes. The brilliant execution our readers love so much is the hard work of the crazy-talented duo of stylist Andrea McCrindle and photographer Michael Nangreaves, who, each issue, pull it off in only a few days (often including weekends).

To start the year off right, we decided to take that concept of high and low and highlight ideas throughout this issue. The goal is to get you thinking about how to combine coveted investment pieces and budget buys to achieve your own personal aesthetic. Whatever decorating plans 2016 holds for you, you can count on us to offer great style choices for every price point. Happy New Year!

GET THE COVER LOOK FOR LESS

1 Thomas O'Brien small Goodman **PENDANT LIGHT** in Bronze with shade in Hand-rubbed Antique Brass, $735 US, Circa Lighting, circalighting.com; **2** Eiffel **DINING CHAIR** with wooden base, $119, Modern Furniture Knockoff, mfkto.com; **3** Docksta **DINING TABLE,** $269, IKEA, ikea.ca; **4** Round Jute **RUG,** from $125 US, Serena & Lily, serenaandlily.com.

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PHOTOGRAPHY, STACEY VAN BERKEL

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styleathome VIP
EVENTS & EXPERIENCES

Nikko Jacino, Executive Chef of Luxe Appliance Studio

Erin McLaughlin, Editor-in-Chief

TORONTO • OCTOBER 15, 2015

Guests enjoyed an informative, style-filled evening with Style at Home editor-in-chief Erin McLaughlin at our **Colourful Kitchens** VIP event at Toronto's Luxe Appliance Studio. Erin shared tips on adding pops of colour and personality to a kitchen, while chef Nikko Jacino served up delicious bites.

Style at Home VIPs are the first to know about special offers and exclusive events.

Visit **styleathome.com/vip** for a list of our upcoming events.

PHOTOGRAPHY, CLIFTON TULLY

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SHEET **SERGEANT**

"Bed Basics" in the December 2015 issue (page 42) prompted many memories of my late mother. She took great pleasure in teaching her daughters how to properly make a bed. Hospital corners were a must and the bedspread had to be wrinkle-free. The cozy arrangements you featured would have received high marks from her!

LILLIE NORMILE, VIA EMAIL

WASHING **WOES**

Phew – even the pros don't do it all at once! I've just downsized and am trying to resist the urge to make over everything, including my basement laundry room. I loved the one you featured in Reno of the Month (page 30, November 2015), particularly its smart solution for hiding the furnace and water heater.

GAY MACQUARRIE, KANATA, ON

RECYCLING **STYLE**

Every few years, I'm forced to go through all my *Style at Home* issues and say goodbye to a pile to make room for more. Because I recognize how much inspiration can come from them, I recycle them in the best way – by giving them to doctors' offices and hospital waiting rooms with the hope that a few of them go home with people who have found that "perfect idea." I've been subscribing since nearly the time the magazine began and have always found it relevant, from living in my tiniest rental to my evolved forever home.

NATASHA, VIA EMAIL

DIEHARD **FAN**

I've been a reader of *Style at Home* for many years, and I just wanted to say how much I look forward to receiving the magazine each month. I read every single article, and I've truly come to appreciate all the attention you give to Canadian homes, designers and decorators. Kudos!

SHERYL IRWIN, VICTORIA, BC

PAY IT **FORWARD**

I save all my *Style at Home* issues to take to my daughter in Woodstock, Ga. She thoroughly enjoys reading each issue and in turn passes it on to her friend, who is also delighted to browse through the pages filled with inspirational Canadian homes, decorating ideas and delicious recipes.

JAN PERRIN, APSLEY, ON

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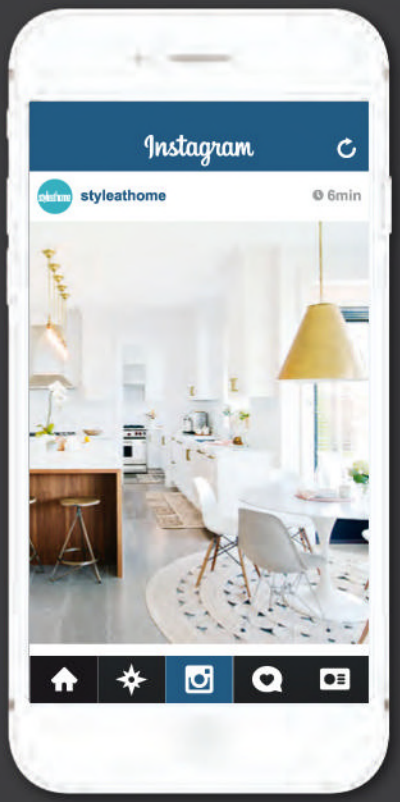

This January, join @styleathome on Instagram as we unveil the most anticipated trends of the year, from kitchens and bathrooms to paint colours and tech. A new trend will be revealed every day!

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style news

PRODUCER MORGAN LINDSAY | **TEXT** MARY LEVITSKI

Cotton Longrock **TOSS CUSHION** in Fiesta, from $50, Tonic Living, tonicliving.com.

JANUARY'S MUST-HAVE: *technicolour toss cushion*

Even a small accent can make a huge difference in a space. With an exotic kilim-inspired pattern and a plentitude of bright hues, this toss cushion has what it takes.

ILLUSTRATION, MICHELLE MORELAN; ROOM STYLING, MAVEN COLLECTIVE, INSTAGRAM.COM/MAVENCOLLECTPDX; PHOTOGRAPHY, JOE KIM (TOSS CUSHION)

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Painted-MDF Ocean **CREDENZA** with elm base, $799, Structube, structube.com.

RISE AND SHINE

Since its launch in 2014, Canadian Tire's Canvas brand, which offers high style for less, has been on an upswing. Its foray into indoor lighting is promising, as evidenced by this luxe table lamp, with its **STUDDED-GLASS BASE, FABRIC SHADE AND BRUSHED-STEEL DETAILS.**

Get a boutique look for a big-box price.

Canvas Sonia **TABLE LAMP,** $130, Canadian Tire, canadiantire.ca.

DOSE OF DESIGNER

The designer fabrics of the moment are a splurge, but you only need a yard or so to update an existing toss cushion!

Belgian linen Dotted Floral **FABRIC** in Ruby, $158 US per yard, Rebecca Atwood, rebeccaatwood.com.

Velvet Tonga **FABRIC** in Atlantic, $364 per yard, through designers, Beacon Hill, beaconhilldesign.com.

Christopher Farr linen Fleurs Etoilees **FABRIC** in Smoke, $280 per yard, through designers, Lee Jofa, leejofa.com.

Christopher Farr linen Armature Feuilles **FABRIC** in Green, $308 per yard, through designers, Lee Jofa, leejofa.com.

Staff loves

COLOUR TREND: No, you're not wearing rose-coloured glasses. There really is this much pinky coral on our pages. We're seeing the hue everywhere – and loving it!

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*vs. Poise. **based on average U.S. consumer usage. †while supplies last.

POP QUIZ!

Got an eye for expensive details? Test it by picking the pricier piece in each pairing.

▼ HINT: This elegant option is handmade from Canadian maple and highly resilient soy-based foam.

▼ HINT: The handcrafted hardwood frame of this smart chair is FSC-certified.

CORAL ARMCHAIRS

▲ HINT: Two drawers stash tons of stuff, while the top is outfitted with discreet cord portals.

▲ HINT: A single drawer with a hole pull has a floating appearance.

MINIMALIST WOODEN DESKS

◄ HINT: Glossy colourful painted-aluminum tables shine with brass-hued tops.

► HINT: Each one is hewn from two solid marble pieces in contrasting tones.

TWO-TONE SIDE TABLES

ANSWERS (FROM LEFT TO RIGHT): William **ARMCHAIR** with polyester-blend fabric in Orchid and maple legs, $2,484, Barrymore Furniture, barrymorefurniture.com; Atwood **ARMCHAIR** with polyester-blend Berkeley fabric in Coral and wooden base, $1,250, Gus Modern, gusmodern.com; ash-veneered MDF Kick **DESK** with ash legs, $649, EQ3, eq3.com; ash-veneered fiberboard Lisabo **DESK** with birch legs, $179, IKEA, ikea.ca; painted recycled-aluminum Martini Two-tone **SIDE TABLES,** $179 each, West Elm, westelm.com; Khouri Guzman Bunce Lininger solid marble DeMarco **SIDE TABLES,** $9,315 each, South Hill Home, southhillhome.com.

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**Retail assortment may vary by retailer*

Socality Barbie's Instagram feed (@socalitybarbie) is a satirical take on the slow-living hipster aesthetic portrayed on the popular social media platform.

the new simplicity

Inspired by one of our favourite cheeky Instagram feeds, this trend embraces slow and simple living. **PRODUCER** AMANDA ETTY

wear it

This ensemble from Madewell's fall/winter 2015 collection captures this casual style.

Folded at the foot of a bed, a wool blanket adds an extra layer of warmth, texture and style.

Surround a modern dining table with spindle back chairs in a natural finish.

1 Chemex 3-Cup **COFFEE MAKER,** $50, Crate and Barrel, crateandbarrel.ca.

2 Feather Grass BP 5105 **WALLPAPER,** $260 per double roll, Farrow & Ball, farrow-ball.com.

3 Monogrammed Shield **CHEESEBOARD,** $115, Mark and Graham, markandgraham.com.

4 18th C. Bow Back **WINDSOR CHAIR** in Weathered Oak Drifted, $249 US, Restoration Hardware, rh.com.

5 Fern **HOUSEPLANT,** available at local garden centres.

6 Tofte Fair Isle **BLANKET** in Heather Charcoal/Natural, from $360 US, Faribault Woolen Mill, faribaultmill.com.

7 Wool-top **STOOL** in Natural, $350, Artemano, artemano.ca.

Lipidol is a range of six new oils for daily skincare. Featured product: Lipidol Overnight Face Oil 50ml. Supplements the skin's natural oily layer stripped away by daily exposure to the elements. Available at Walmart and walmart.ca at $8.97. lipidol.com

how to stylishly manage kitchen waste

PRODUCER
MARY LEVITSKI

Everything you need to know to keep your cooking space's garbage receptacle looking and smelling fresh.

Renovating? Whether you go custom or use prefab pieces (such as these ones from IKEA), have a garbage centre built inside your cabinetry.

This year, make a resolution to give the trash can the attention it deserves (because if you don't, believe me, it will raise a stink about it). As organic material decomposes, it emits gases and liquids that mix in forever new yet predictably unpleasant combinations. The best way to minimize the stench is to take out the trash regularly – the less time it has to decompose, the better. Most bins are at least partially plastic, which absorbs odour, so make a habit of cleaning your can's interior and exterior (lid included!) with antibacterial all-purpose spray each time you take out the garbage. Before inserting a new bag, sprinkle baking soda at the bottom of the can; it will absorb much of the smell. Activated charcoal and cat litter work well, too, but don't forget to routinely replace them.

chuck bin checklist

SHOPPING FOR A KITCHEN TRASH CAN? LOOK FOR THESE FEATURES.

LID
An absolute must for containing smell.

EASY OPEN
Effortless access (think: a pedal, touchless technology, etc.) is more convenient and sanitary.

BAG CONCEALER
A mechanism, such as a secondary interior bin, that allows you to tuck the bag out of sight.

STYLE
Take your kitchen's decor into account.

pick of the litter

Our favourite functional and stylish trash cans.

HANDS-FREE
This receptacle's handy touchless lid and replaceable carbon filter confine odour.

ITouchless stainless steel Deodorizer **TRASH CAN,** 50 l, $144, The Home Depot, homedepot.ca.

COMPACT
A split lid (operated by a strong pedal) means this petite option can easily fit under the counter.

Simplehuman fingerprint-proof stainless steel Butterfly Step **TRASH CAN,** 30 l, $160, Hudson's Bay, thebay.com.

DESIGNER
Muuto is known for its streamlined designs, and this trash can is no different.

Muuto plastic Hideaway **TRASH CAN** in Grey, 45 l, $219, The Modern Shop, themodernshop.ca.

ORGANIZED
Tidy compartments keep compost, recycling and trash separate.

Joseph Joseph powder-coated steel Totem **TRASH CAN** in Stone, 60 l, $299, Danesco, danescoinc.com.

SIZE MATTERS
Bigger isn't always better. You don't want to be forced to take out the garbage, say, twice in one day, but you shouldn't let it sit there for a week or longer, either. Consider your needs and habits and select a size that will have you taking out the trash every few days.

COMPOST STENCH CURE
Keep a small composting bin in your freezer. The sub-zero temperature will stop the waste from decomposing and, thus, from developing a smell.

PHOTOGRAPHY, DONNA GRIFFITH (KITCHEN)

HE FIGHTS DIRTY *no matter how dirty* DIRTY IS.

NO MATTER WHERE THEY ARE, TOUGH MESSES DON'T STAND A CHANCE WHEN MR. CLEAN'S MAGIC ERASER IS PART OF YOUR CLEAN ROUTINE.

WHEN IT COMES TO CLEAN THERE'S ONLY ONE Mr.

Wet before use. A rinse is required for surfaces that come in direct contact with food. Use as directed.

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1

2

3

4

7

6

Best night market snack

8

An example of the many teak pieces Artemano sources from Chiang Mai.

THAILAND

EDITOR'S ITINERARY: Chiang Mai

Style at Home editor-in-chief Erin McLaughlin travelled to this city nestled in the hills of northern Thailand just in time for its internationally renowned flower festival.

Number of days to spend here

2

Day 1

With its lush landscape, relaxed atmosphere, amazing shopping and delicious and affordable food, Chiang Mai is an inspiring, colourful place to visit. I went to check out Canadian furniture retailer Artemano's buying process and see the famous flower festival.

I stayed at **Ping Nakara (7),** a sophisticated Colonial-style hotel with a laid-back yet luxurious vibe. The best part is the hotel's location – it feels remote despite its proximity to the action. It's also the site of **Nakara Spa,** which offers Ayurvedic treatments in a peaceful environment. Try its invigorating Abhyanga massage before embarking on a day of strolling and sightseeing.

Good news: There's no shortage of coffee shops in Chiang Mai, so you won't need to travel far to get a good cup of joe. I especially loved the eclectic **FunkyDog Cafe (5),** where I ordered the best banana pancakes and a coconut smoothie served with a shot of espresso. **Thin Thai Factory (1),** one of the places Artemano sources wood from, has an on-site café where I had one of my favourite lattés.

Plan your trip to coincide with the **Chiang Mai Flower Festival (3),** which takes place in February and features

PHOTOGRAPHY, DREAMSTIME.COM (SMOOTHIE), JULIO MESTRES (BAAN TAWAI VILLAGE)

Menu pick: coconut smoothie with a shot of espresso.

a parade, exhibition and competition. Be sure to check out the displays around the Thapae Gate, showcasing unique flower and plant products from northern Thailand growers. I picked up pretty paper flowers to give to the *Style at Home* staffers.

Spend the evening exploring one of Chiang Mai's fresh markets, which sell produce, meats and prepared foods. There's plenty to see and taste, and there's always an incredible variety of fruit and veg available, fresh or juiced. I ate like a local, ordering a traditional fish dish cooked with chili peppers and coriander.

Day 2

Head to **Baan Tawai Village (8),** the handicraft village in Chiang Mai's Hang Dong district. The area was established when villagers employed as loggers used leftover wood to make small carved pieces in their spare time. Even if you're not in the market for shipping a teak table back home, it's always interesting to see the talented woodcarvers do their thing.

Dine at **The Gallery (4)** along the Ping River. Go for the elegant atmosphere, live music and authentic northern Thai dishes. (Plus, it's Hillary Clinton approved!)

Don't leave without visiting the night market. Popular with locals and tourists alike, it's where you can find a range of souvenirs, artwork, **handicrafts (2)** and snacks. While you're there, keep your eyes open for **Annette (6),** which sells adorable ice cream bars out of an equally sweet pastel blue tuk-tuk (motorized rickshaw).

Prepare for hot, sunny days spent walking (a lot) and exploring the local markets.

what to PACK

perfect sun hat

▲ Lucy **HAT,** $140 US, Goorin Bros., goorin.com.

breezy cover-up

▲ White **TUNIC,** $102, J.Crew, jcrew.com.

powerful protection

◀ UltraCalming Super Sensitive Shield SPF 30 **SUNSCREEN,** $66, Dermalogica, dermalogica.ca.

essential travel cases

▲ Leather **TRAVEL CASES** in Blue, $95 US per set, Cuyana, cuyana.com.

comfy flip-flops

▶ Glosses **FLIP-FLOPS** in Opal, $58, Tkees, tkees.com.

PLAN YOUR OWN TRIP

Ping Nakara & Nakara Spa
pingnakara.com

FunkyDog Cafe
facebook.com/funkydogcafe

Thin Thai Factory
thinthaifactory.com

The Gallery
thegalleryrestaurant.com

Annette
annetteitimtuktuk.com

PRODUCER ERYN CHESNEY

kitchen cravings

This issue, we round up five standout serving pieces to elevate your New Year's bash.

1 SUPER BOWL

In beautifully rich shades of black and blue, Royal Copenhagen's durable fluted dishware is perfect for serving a delicious and hearty winter meal to family and friends.

Porcelain Blue Fluted **BOWL,** $60 US, Royal Copenhagen, royalcopenhagen.us.

2 TOSS UP

You won't hesitate to let guests serve themselves with these show-stealing wooden salad servers designed by Matteo Thun.

SALAD SERVERS, $50 US per set, Design Within Reach, dwr.com.

3 APPETIZERS APLENTY

Dips, crudités and finger foods – serve myriad appetizers all at once with this Lazy Susan, which features removable ceramic dishes and a handy spinning acacia wood base.

Spun **LAZY SUSAN,** $90, Umbra, umbra.com.

4 WELL PLACED

A sit-down dinner party calls for gorgeous cutlery. The unique silhouettes of Alessi's new Collo-Alto flatware are making us swoon.

Alessi Collo-Alto **TABLE FLATWARE,** $19 each, Bergo Designs, bergo.ca.

5 PEPPER, ANYONE?

The answer will be a resounding yes. Who could resist when the vessel is this stunning?

Swedish Cast Iron **PEPPER MILL** with walnut lid, $119 US, Kaufmann Mercantile, kaufmann-mercantile.com.

cocktail picks

FOR THE CIDER DRINKER

The Brits aren't the only ones who know cider. Serve this version from Caledon, Ont., at your next soiree.

Farmhouse **CIDER,** $3, Pommies, pommies.com.

FOR THE WINE ENTHUSIAST

Wine and whisky lovers, unite! This new whisky-barrel-aged shiraz is the perfect hostess gift.

Double Barrel **SHIRAZ,** $20, Jacob's Creek, jacobscreek.com.

Kellogg's

RICE KRISPIES*

#Treats FOR Toys

MAKE ME

You make a treat. We donate a toy.

Show your little ones what it means to give this holiday season. Share a photo of your Rice Krispies* creation using **#TreatsForToys** or at **TreatsForToys.ca**, and help make a difference†

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banana bread brownies

RECIPE & FOOD STYLING
TANYA ENG

PHOTOGRAPHY
MAYA VISNYEI

PROP STYLING
ANN MARIE FAVOT

Calling all *banana bread* lovers and *brownie* fanatics: This *sweet combination* was made for you.

ALTHOUGH, WITH ITS DECADENT WALNUT BROWN BUTTER FROSTING, WE'RE PRETTY SURE THIS IS A DESSERT JUST ABOUT *ANYONE* CAN GET BEHIND.

INGREDIENTS

MAKES 16 SQUARES

Banana Bread Brownies

- 1½ cups mashed ripened bananas (about 3 large bananas)
- 1 cup melted unsalted butter, divided
- 1 cup granulated sugar, divided
- 3 eggs
- 1 cup all-purpose flour, divided
- ½ tsp pure vanilla extract
- ½ cup sifted cocoa powder
- 100 g chopped good-quality dark chocolate

Walnut Brown Butter Frosting

- 1 cup unsalted butter
- 1 cup walnuts
- 3 cups icing sugar, divided
- 1 tsp kosher salt

DIRECTIONS

Preheat the oven to 350°F. In a large bowl, whisk together the bananas, ½ cup of the butter, ½ cup of the sugar and 1 egg. Fold in ½ cup of the flour.

In a separate bowl, whisk together the remaining butter, sugar and eggs and the vanilla. Fold in the remaining flour and the cocoa powder; fold in the chocolate. Fold the two mixtures together until they're not quite combined (the mixture should be marbled); scrape everything into a 9" square pan lined with parchment paper.

Bake for 25 to 30 minutes, until the brownies are lightly puffed but the centre is wobbly. Allow to cool for 5 minutes, then remove the brownies from the pan and let cool completely on a wire rack.

To make the frosting, heat the butter and walnuts in a saucepan over medium-low heat, stirring occasionally, for 8 to 10 minutes, until the butter melts and the walnuts turn golden brown. Remove from the heat and transfer to a blender. Pulse until the walnuts are puréed. Pour the mixture into a heatproof bowl and chill in the freezer until the butter is solid. Let the butter sit at room temperature until softened.

Whip the butter mixture with a hand mixer on high speed until it's light and fluffy, 3 to 4 minutes. Reduce the speed to low, stir in 1 cup of the icing sugar and the salt. Increase the speed to medium-high for 2 minutes. Repeat with the remaining 2 cups icing sugar. Spread the icing over the cooled brownies.

DESSERT WORLDS DELICIOUSLY COLLIDE IN THIS MASH-UP OF TWO FAVOURITE TREATS.

INCORPORATE VERSATILE PIECES LIKE THESE UNIQUE SCHOOLHOUSE-STYLE PENDANT LIGHTS. THEY HAVE TONS OF VINTAGE APPEAL BUT ARE SLEEK ENOUGH TO LOOK RIGHT AT HOME IN A CLEAN-LINED, MODERN SPACE.

WITH THEIR ABUNDANCE OF WHITE, CHROME AND GLASS, CONTEMPORARY BATHROOMS RISK FEELING A LITTLE COLD, SO CHOOSE A VANITY THAT WILL HELP GROUND THE LOOK AND LEND THE SPACE WARMTH. THIS BLACK BEAUTY FEATURES SHAKER-STYLE DOORS AND DELICATE TAPERED LEGS.

master bathroom

This sophisticated ensuite perfectly combines classic elegance and contemporary flair. Here's how you can bring the look home.

TEXT ERYN CHESNEY | **PHOTOGRAPHY** MICHAEL GRAYDON | **STYLING** CHRISTINE HANLON

A FREE-STANDING SOAKER TUB MAKES A LUXURIOUS STATEMENT. KEEP THE SURROUNDING WALLS AND WINDOWS UNADORNED SO IT CAN STEAL THE SHOW.

▲ Moroccan leather **POUFFE** in White, $395, The Cross Decor & Design, thecrossdesign.com.

Odyssey 1 **PENDANT LIGHT** in Antique Black, $184 US, Schoolhouse Electric & Supply Co., schoolhouse-electric.com.

get the look

Timeless Modern

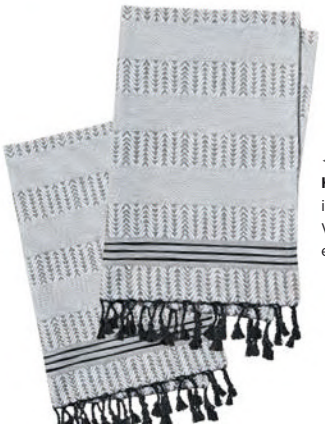
▲ Hemnes/Odensvik **VANITY** in Black/Brown with Granskär faucets, $879, IKEA, ikea.ca.

Wyndham Collection Mermaid **BATHTUB** in White, 5', $1,815, The Home Depot, homedepot.ca.

IMBUE A BATHROOM WITH CHARACTER BY LAYERING THE SPACE WITH EXOTIC TEXTILES. HERE, A MOROCCAN-STYLE POUFFE AND HAMMAM HAND TOWELS ADD A TOUCH OF FUN TO THE ULTRA-MODERN SCHEME.

CONTRACTING, custom **MIRRORS,** Delin Build; Oxford White CC-30 **WALL PAINT,** Benjamin Moore; **VANITY,** Altima Kitchens; **BATHTUB, TUB FILLER,** Roman Bath Centre; **FAUCETS,** Taps Bath Centre; **BLINDS,** The Home Depot; **POUFFE,** Joss & Main; **FLOOR & SHOWER FLOOR TILES,** Saltillo Imports; **PENDANT LIGHTS,** Schoolhouse Electric & Supply Co.; **TOWELS,** West Elm; hammam **HAND TOWELS** (on pouffe), Au Lit Fine Linens.

FOR SOURCES, SEE OUR WORKBOOK

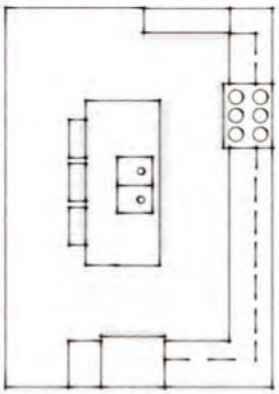


◀ Geo Hammam **HAND TOWELS** in Slate, $12 each, West Elm, west-elm.com.

PROBLEM
Boxed-in layout

SOLUTION
Take drastic measures to create an open-concept main-level floor plan

FLOOR PLAN
220 sq. ft.



west coast *fresh*

A gutsy renovation decision affords these Vancouver homeowners a highly functional, modern kitchen.

TEXT LESLEY YOUNG | **PHOTOGRAPHY** TRACEY AYTON

ABOVE The hefty walnut island with room for three and a matching pantry ground the white cabinets and quartz countertops. "I wanted quartz for ease of care," says homeowner Sally Parrott, "but I was surprised to learn it wasn't that much cheaper than marble." Some savings were found in the porcelain floor tile that looks like cement.

DESIGN, Shift Interiors, shift-interiors.com; **CONTRACTING,** Averra Developments; custom **CABINETRY,** Old World Kitchens & Custom Cabinets; **COUNTERTOPS,** Aeon Stone + Tile; **BACKSPLASH TILES,** Olympia Tile + Stone; Thermador **RANGE & RANGE HOOD,** Trail Appliances; Franke **SINK,** Riobel **FAUCET,** Robinson Lighting & Bath Centre; **STOOLS,** Livingspace Interiors; **FLOOR TILES,** Stone Tile International; **PENDANT LIGHTS,** Niche Modern.

An open floor plan; rich wood finishes; a sleek, casual look: These are the hallmarks of the West Coast modern style that Sally Parrott and Erik Berg wanted in a new home for their family of five. But given their neighbourhood of choice – Vancouver's Mount Pleasant area – they realized they'd have to renovate top to bottom to get it. "Our options were older character-filled homes with not enough space, or poorly renovated houses," says Sally. "We ended up buying the ugliest house on the street, literally," she adds, dubbing the then four-apartment home the "1994 pink palace." The solid structure had the flexibility and spaciousness the couple needed to turn it into an open-concept wonder with a welcoming, organized kitchen at its heart.

The planning process

It's one thing to gut an entire home, but it's another to move the kitchen to the opposite side of the house, knock down a structural wall and close up a window. Yet that's just what Jamie Deck, designer and director of Shift Interiors, advised. The couple was torn over the increased costs, but in the end couldn't argue with spatial logic. "It allowed us to open up the whole layout," says Jamie.

The design decisions

The first big choice came in the minimalistic low-sheen white cabinetry. Sally wanted a style without fussy profile edges. But Erik, whose taste runs more traditional, was concerned the kitchen would read too stark. Enter the warm-toned richly grained walnut island (topped with quartz), pantry and floating shelf. "I wanted high-quality materials that would stand a lot of wear and tear, knowing we would spend a lot of time here," explains Sally.

The result

"We're thrilled with the outcome of the kitchen. It's the happiest room in our home," says Sally.

ABOVE With their comfy seats and nearly invisible legs, the stools don't compete with the beauty of the walnut island. The marble mosaic backsplash introduces another organic element.

FAR LEFT A floating walnut shelf enlivens an otherwise empty corner. "I keep my favourite cookbooks there. It's nice to have them handy," says Sally.

FRENCH OVEN, Ming Wo.

ABOVE The appliance garage cupboards, starting above the microwave, open horizontally, mirroring the look of the drawers below and creating a clean sightline. "I love how the upper doors hinge open for super easy access," says Sally.

Thermador **REFRIGERATOR,** Panasonic **MICROWAVE,** EuroTrim **MICROWAVE TRIM KIT,** Trail Appliances.

FOR SOURCES, SEE OUR WORKBOOK

BUDGET *breakdown*

Here's what it'll cost you to get the look of this kitchen.

MATERIALS
$33,310

- Millwork (cabinetry) **$25,000***
- Countertops **$6,000**
- Backsplash tiles **$545**
- Floor tiles **$1,130**
- Cabinetry hardware **$635**

ELECTRICAL/ PLUMBING
$10,000

APPLIANCES
$26,755

- Refrigerator **$12,300**
- Range **$9,000**
- Range hood **$2,150**
- Microwave **$420**
- Microwave trim kit **$330**
- Sink **$1,870**
- Faucet **$685**

TOTAL COST
$70,065

(excludes design; *includes labour)

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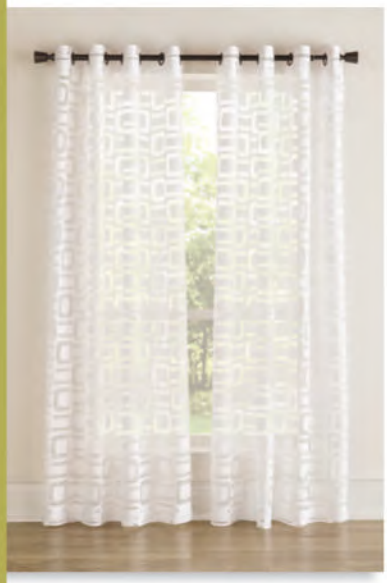
- S&C duvets and pillows are stuffed with a superior down alternative fibrefill.
- Soft, medium and firm S&C density pillows are made to suit your individual sleep style.
- S&C density pillows are gusseted and quilted for extra comfort.



Semi-sheer S&C **WINDOW PANELS** softly filter the sun yet still allow natural light into your bedroom. Add a simple roll-up shade for privacy at night.

A unique combination of ultra-fine yarns and weaving style creates a 300 thread-count **SHEET** that's smooth, soft and long-lasting.

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east meets west

Style at Home editor-in-chief Erin McLaughlin travels to Thailand to explore how Artemano, a Canadian retailer with roots in the Far East, brings furniture from faraway forests to our homes.

LIVING ON THE EDGE

Live-edge furniture refers to pieces like this, where the wood's natural edge is incorporated into the design for a look that's both chic and sculptural.

WILD THINGS

ARTEMANO CO-OWNERS SHIMON FINKELSTEIN (LEFT) AND EYAL SHOAM STANDING IN FRONT OF A MASSIVE PIECE OF WOOD THEY COULDN'T LEAVE WITHOUT.

PHOTOGRAPHY, MICHAEL NANGREAVES (DINING ROOM)

PERFECT PAIR

Only an avid adventurer and bona fide globetrotter could come up with a concept like this: creating a retail shop that connects us to the Far East through decor. In 2002, Shimon Finkelstein opened the doors to Artemano, a furniture and accessories store that sources its materials and inspiration from South and Southeast Asia, bringing the exotic look we've come to associate with destinations like Thailand, Indonesia and India into homes across the country; he was joined in 2004 by Eyal Shoam. We love the artistic individuality of each piece, and we like to think of the journey each item took to land here in Canada. Here's a closer look.

MOMS DON'T TAKE SICK DAYS.

MOMS TAKE

THE NON-DROWSY, COUGHING, ACHING, FEVER, SORE THROAT PAIN, STUFFY HEAD, CHEST CONGESTION, **NO SICK DAYS, MEDICINE.**

THE NIGHTTIME, SNIFFLING, SNEEZING, COUGHING, ACHING, FEVER, STUFFY HEAD, **SO YOU CAN SLEEP WITH A COLD, MEDICINE.**

VICKS

To ensure this product is right for you, always follow and read the label. Keep all medicines out of reach of children.

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Walmart.ca Shop Now

Available at Walmart

A TABLE TALE

Artemano sources and creates furniture using wood that comes from all over South and Southeast Asia. Here we track the key production stages of live-edge dining tables from their beginnings in a Thai forest – it's a process that can take more than five months in all!

THE START

1. SOURCE

Wood is sourced from a certified-sustainable forest in northern Thailand.

2. MEASURE

After being cut down, the trees are measured to determine what they'll be used for.

3. MARK

Each log is marked with chalk to keep track of what each piece will become.

6. DRY

Slabs of wood are left out in the sunlight to remove excess moisture.

5. FIRE

Smaller pieces are dried out in a temperature-controlled room or a kiln.

4. CUT

The felled trees get trimmed down to their intended size with a chainsaw.

THE FINISH

7. STAIN

Slabs are stained with Artemano's specially blended lacquer.

8. SHOW

After transport, finished pieces land in one of Artemano's showrooms across Ontario and Quebec.

9. SELL

The table is purchased, brought home, surrounded by other stylish pieces and admired by all.

PHOTOGRAPHY (THIS PAGE), GETTY.COM/CHRIS TERRYN/VWPICS (1), CONTESKA (2, 3, 5, 6, 8), MICHAEL NANGREAVES (9); PHOTOGRAPHY (OPPOSITE), VIRGINIA MACDONALD (LIVING ROOM)

FURNITURE AS ART

What is it about natural-wood furniture that lends instant personality to a space? It could be that no two pieces are exactly alike, each revealing a unique grain and interesting knots – details that call to mind the wooded wonderland they came from. Nooks and crannies are welcomed and imperfections are celebrated, because they're marks of character that can't be faked. Whether it's a sculptural coffee table formed from a solid stump or a salvaged-plank TV unit showcasing a rustic, rugged grain, raw-wood furniture like this proves Mother Nature is the best artist around.

▲ Recycled-railway-wood **TV UNIT** with stainless steel legs, $2,295, Artemano, artemano.ca.

▶ Free-form mango wood **BOWLS,** $75 per set of 3, Artemano, artemano.ca.

Erin's Instagram

NATURE'S DESIGN

SNAPPED ON-SITE IN THAILAND, THIS SHOT SHOWS A SCULPTURAL PIECE OF SOLID WOOD DESTINED TO BECOME A CONSOLE.

1. STRIKE A BALANCE. Pair rustic rough-hewn pieces with clean-lined contemporary furniture. **2. GIVE IT CENTRE STAGE.** Raw wood is an art piece in and of itself, so leave the walls unadorned and let the grain shine. **3. MUTE THE RAINBOW.** Since there are already a handful of tones in many wood grains, keep other colours to a minimum. **4. MAKE IT COHESIVE.** Use two or three different woods and have more than one hit of each type.

WOOD 101

With renewal and rejuvenation top of mind, Artemano sources its exotic woods from forests that are certified sustainable and government regulated. Here are a few Erin loves.

ROSEWOOD
Though slow growing, this wood is plentiful in India; grain varies from blond to burgundy in colour.

SUAR
A fast-growing wood sustainably harvested from the limbs of trees grown for other purposes; grain boasts rich, high-contrast tones for an artful appeal.

RECYCLED
Salvaged from storm-felled trees, fishing boats, railways and old construction; features chipped paint and the patina of a storied antique.

high OR low?

We designed a cozy reading nook, perfect for curling up with a good book, on both a paperback and a hardcover budget. Can you tell the difference?

PRODUCER ANDREA MCCRINDLE | **TEXT** MARY LEVITSKI | **PHOTOGRAPHY** MICHAEL NANGREAVES

HIGH & LOW White papier mâché **DEER BUST,** West Elm, westelm.com.

$598 US

1 Piet Hein Eek Scrapwood PHE-10 **WALLPAPER,** $299 US per single roll, NLXL, nlxl.com.

$299

2 Celadon Studios wood-framed Birch Abstract III **PRINT,** 28″ x 33″, Hudson's Bay, thebay.com.

$43

3 Where the Wild Things Are **PRINT,** 8″ x 10″, $30, Jennifer Squires Productions, jennifersquires.ca; fibreboard Virserum **FRAME** in Gold-colour, $13, IKEA, ikea.ca.

$130 US

4 Limited edition *Natura* **ARTWORK** by Taleen Bedikian on premium cotton paper with Natural Premium Wood frame, 11″ x 11″, Minted, minted.com.

$899

5 Bronze-finished iron **FLOOR LAMP** with glass shade, Art Shoppe, theartshoppe.com.

$156

6 Linen Grande Check **ROMAN BLIND & BENCH CUSHION FABRIC** in Tuxedo, $78 per yard, through designers, Robert Allen, robertallendesign.com.

$70

7 Jo Alcorn polyfilled cotton-blend red and beige Ian **TOSS CUSHION,** Shop.ca.

$70

8 Jo Alcorn polyfilled polyester black with grey pinstripe Armani **TOSS CUSHION,** Shop.ca.

$39

9 Acrylic C10326 **TOSS CUSHION** in White with polyester insert, Structube, structube.com.

$4,252

10 Wool Patchwork Atmosfera **RUG** in Silver, Grey & Steel, 8′ x 10′, Tapis Rugs & Carpet, tapisrugs.ca.

$299

11 Large powder-coated iron Knurl **SIDE TABLE** with aluminum top, Crate and Barrel, crateandbarrel.ca.

$1,299

12 Suitor **WINGBACK CHAIR** with olefin Hanson fabric in Sapphire and maple legs, CB2, cb2.ca.

$112

1 Brewster Home Fashions Heim Distressed Wood Panel **WALLPAPER** in Brown, $56 per single roll, Provincial Wallcoverings, 905-890-2834.

$220

2 Wood-framed Logs **PRINT** by David Aubrey, 32″ x 40″, The Picture Picture Co., picturepictureco.com.

$24

3 Winter Forest Trees Covered in Falling Snow **PRINT** by Nicholas Eveleigh, 8″ x 10″, $11, Zazzle, zazzle.ca; fibreboard Virserum **FRAME** in Gold-colour, $13, IKEA, ikea.ca.

$35

4 *Tree Stump* **ARTWORK,** 11″ x 14″, $25 US, Michael Arras, michaelarras.etsy.com; fibreboard Gunnabo **FRAME** in Black, 13″ x 17″, $10, IKEA, ikea.ca.

$120

5 Canvas powder-coated steel Quinn **FLOOR LAMP** with glass shade, Canadian Tire, canadiantire.ca.

$20

6 Cotton Berta Ruta **ROMAN BLIND & BENCH CUSHION FABRIC** in Black, $10 per metre, IKEA, ikea.ca.

$63

7 Polyester-blend Cozy Boucle **TOSS CUSHION COVER** in Cayenne, $49, feather **INSERT,** $14, West Elm, westelm.com.

$15

8 Ramie Vigdis **TOSS CUSHION COVER** in Black, $10, polyester Inner **INSERT,** $5, IKEA, ikea.ca.

$20

9 Acrylic Megan **TOSS CUSHION** with polyester insert, Jysk, jysk.ca.

$1,700

10 Olefin Ashton Neutro **RUG** in Grey, 8′ x 11′, Tapis Rugs & Carpet, tapisrugs.ca.

$100

11 Canvas powder-coated steel **SIDE TABLE** with ash-veneered MDF shelves, Canadian Tire, canadiantire.ca.

$499

12 Polo **WINGBACK CHAIR** with polyester fabric in Grey and ash legs, Structube, structube.com.

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WINGING IT

A smart **grey wingback chair** is both accessible – prices vary – and versatile. The four below range in style from traditional to modern, transitional to country.

HIGH

$2,595

19th C. English with Belgian linen fabric in Fog and walnut legs in Antiqued Brown, Restoration Hardware, rh.com.

$1,250

Danforth with polyester Urban Tweed fabric in Ink and stainless steel base, Gus Modern, gus-modern.com.

$995

Polyester Seaton with hardwood legs, Elte Market, eltemkt.com.

$399

Strandmon with polyester Nordvalla fabric in Dark Gray, IKEA, ikea.ca.

LOW

to each her own

WHEN IT COMES TO CREATING A GALLERY WALL, THERE ARE NO RULES, SO PLAY WITH LOW-COST PRINTS, ORIGINAL ARTWORK AND VINTAGE PIECES.

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT Abandoned Barn **PRINT** by Kyle Werstiuk (in vintage frame), 8″ x 10″, $25, Indigo, indigo.ca; Celadon Studios wood-framed Birch Abstract III **PRINT,** 28″ x 33″, $299, Hudson's Bay, thebay.com; Where the Wild Things Are **PRINT,** 8″ x 10″, $30, Jennifer Squires Productions, jennifersquires.ca; fibreboard Virserum **FRAME** in Gold-colour, 12″ x 16″, $13, IKEA, ikea.ca; fibreboard Virserum **FRAME** (with pages from vintage book) in Gold-colour, 12″ x 16″, $13, IKEA, ikea.ca; *Tree Stump* **ARTWORK,** 11″ x 14″, $25 US, Michael Arras, michaelarras.etsy.com; fibreboard Gunnabo **FRAME** in Black, 13″ x 17″, $10, IKEA, ikea.ca; fibreboard Gunnabo **FRAME** (with DIY artwork) in Black, 13″ x 17″, $10, IKEA, ikea.ca; limited edition *Natura* **ARTWORK** by Taleen Bedikian on premium cotton paper with Natural Premium Wood frame, 11″ x 11″, $130 US, Minted, minted.com; Mountain Range **PRINT** by Aimin Tang, 11″ x 13″, $35, Indigo, indigo.ca; fibreboard Virserum **FRAME** in White, 20″ x 20″, $20, IKEA, ikea.ca.

the one that got AWAY

Not every piece that suits our High or Low room sets makes the cut. This month, stylist Andrea McCrindle couldn't find a match for this Moroccan-inspired shag-meets-flatweave rug, so she had to leave it out. "I wish I could have included it," she says. "I love its nostalgic look – like a chenille throw but more exotic."

Wool-blend Wesley **RUG,** 5′ x 8′, $699, CB2, cb2.ca.

toss and turn

You can't go wrong with the decorative triple threat of our high and low window seat **toss cushions:** a textural knit, a cheery bright and a handsome dark. But any one of these options can be combined with two other cushions for a totally different look. Check out these three possible combos. We love them all so much, we can't pick a favourite. Can you?

cozy

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP
Acrylic C10326 in White with polyester insert, $39, Structube, structube.com; polyester Snow Leopard with polyester insert, $20, Jysk, jysk.ca; acrylic-blend Ruched Faux Fur (cover only) in Ivory, $60, Pottery Barn, potterybarn.com.

woodsy

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP
Jo Alcorn polyfilled cotton red and beige Ian, Shop.ca; acrylic-blend Solrök (cover only), $13, IKEA, ikea.ca; polyester Jennings Deer with polyester insert, $39, Urban Barn, urbanbarn.com.

refined

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP
Ramie Vigdis (cover only) in Black, $10, IKEA, ikea.ca; Jo Alcorn poly-filled polyester grey Ernesto, $70, Shop.ca; acrylic C10326 in Grey with polyester insert, $39, Structube, structube.com.

Polo **WINGBACK CHAIR** with polyester fabric in Grey and ash legs, $499, Structube, structube.com.

WINGED BEAUTY

The wingback chair became prevalent in the mid-1600s and early 1700s in what was then Britain's American colonies. Its generous proportions and rich upholstery fabrics made it a luxury reserved for wealthy homes. Designed as a fireside seat, it boasts tall wall-like sides often referred to as wings, which retained heat from an adjacent fireplace while blocking out drafts from nearby doors and windows. The cocooning effect also lends itself particularly well to private conversations, so this was no doubt a common domain for whispered talks among society's elite. The signature winged silhouette is easy to spot in many contemporary interpretations (check out four of our favourites on the opposite page). So the next time you sit in one, take a minute to imagine historical moments that likely began in just such a chair. Think: scandalous love affairs and revolutionary political upheaval.

everywhere we look

1. Fiddle-leaf Fig Tree

why we love it

This tropical beauty is coveted for its wide, glossy leaves and towering height. If you can't find the real thing (or discover it's too fussy), try a good-quality imitation.

Artificial Fejka **TREE,** $15, IKEA, ikea.ca.

Towering above the mantel, this tree in a burlap "bucket" is a fresh, organic counterpoint to a contemporary hand-painted wall mural.

A basket makes the perfect vessel for a potted tree in the California-modern kitchen of *Style at Home* design editor Stacy Begg.

In a handsome den, a fig adds a sculptural note to an empty corner.

Trends come and go, but these four stylish accent pieces are here to stay – and we're thrilled! Here, we examine their never-ending appeal. **TEXT** BETH HITCHCOCK

2. African Headdress

why we love it

Whimsical and eye-catching, the juju hat, a type of African headdress, has become a contemporary decorating staple. The piece's round bull's eye shape makes it a natural focal point over fireplaces, beds and sofas. Plus, it injects a note of softness to hard-edged modern rooms.

Feather **HEADDRESS** in White, 30", $500, Snob, snobstuff.com.

A canary yellow headdress is a can't-be-missed feature in an otherwise neutral dining room.

When matched with the bedding, this hot pink juju hat offers a decorative one-two punch of boldness.

White feathers keep the mood calm in a home office nook, adding texture without the distraction of colour.

PHOTOGRAPHY (THIS PAGE), SUE STUBBS, TRACEY AYTON, JANIS NICOLAY; PHOTOGRAPHY (OPPOSITE), TRACEY AYTON, MICHAEL GRAYDON, STACEY BRANDFORD

3. Moroccan Berber Rug

why we love it

Soft underfoot and graphic in impact, Berber-style rugs can be made from nylon, synthetic fibres or wool. But it's the natural creamy tone and black zigzag or diamond design that really set these rugs apart, making them a perfect fit for spaces both contemporary and traditional.

Wool Souk **RUG,** 8′ x 10′, $1,139, West Elm, westelm.com.

Preppy splashes of green and pink liven up the neutral rug in this youthful living room.

A feminine bedroom gets graphic impact from the black lines of the rug and the Hollywood Regency-style ribbon trim on the valance.

Distinctly Italian in flavour, this vignette shines with just three colours: cream, black and honey brown.

PHOTOGRAPHY, VIRGINIA MACDONALD, ANGUS MCRITCHIE, ASHLEY CAPP

4. Leather Pouffe

why we love it

The versatile Moroccan-style leather pouffe – a more sophisticated version of the beanbag chair – comes in almost any colour imaginable, with metallic versions on offer as well. Pouffes can present as playful or polished – it's all about the context. For a dash of global flair, this piece can't be beat.

Moroccan leather **POUFFE** in Pink, $395, The Cross Decor & Design, thecrossdesign.com.

A white pouffe with reverse stitching goes upscale as a spot to put on shoes or makeup in this dreamy dressing room.

In a nursery, a pink pouffe provides a chic footrest for a nursing mother.

There's no need to worry about little ones running into sharp edges – pouffes are super soft and toddler-safe.

PHOTOGRAPHY, JANIS NICOLAY, ASHLEY CAPP, JANIS NICOLAY

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the decorated office

Looking for ways to create a home office that's just as beautiful as it is functional? Let these three spaces, which balance high and low elements, inspire you.

TEXT LAURA MUIR

PHOTOGRAPHY, TRACEY AYTON

1 creative contrast

THE LOOK

Modern and traditional

THE DECORATING IDEA

Black and white wall panelling defines the space, lends cozy character and creates graphic punch.

The 10-by-12-foot main-floor study of Remy and Tyler Lang's Toronto home offers their family of five a quiet spot for everything from paying bills to doing homework. At the same time, it keeps everybody together. "We wanted a place for the kids on the main level so we could keep an eye on them," says Remy. To enhance the space's secluded, cozy feel in the all-white house, the couple decided to cover the walls in panelling and paint it black and white. "It's traditional with respect to all the mouldings, but the black makes it more modern," says Remy. "And you feel like you're in this one little environment, so you can focus on your work."

CONTRACTING, Delin Build; Black 2132-10 **WALL PAINT,** Oxford White CC-30 **TRIM PAINT,** Benjamin Moore; **DESK** (customized), IKEA; Eames **CHAIR,** Eames **OTTOMAN,** Bølling **TRAY TABLE,** Design Within Reach; black **CHAIR, RUG, GLOBE,** Elte; *Abstract Landscape #29* **ARTWORK** (above desk), Yangyang Pan; *Complete Your Thoughts* **ARTWORK** (on desk) by Charlene Serdan, *Yellow City Sky* **ARTWORK** (on credenza) by Alice Jarry, Art Interiors; **CHANDELIER,** Grand Brass Lamp Parts; **TASK LAMP,** West Elm; **STAPLER, TAPE DISPENSER,** Russell + Hazel.

get the look!

functional + decorative

Abstract Landscape #3 **PRINT** by Yangyang Pan, from $25 US, Siiso Visual Art, siiso.etsy.com.

Industrial **TASK LAMP** in Antique Bronze, $119, West Elm, westelm.com.

Black 2132-10 **WALL PAINT,** from $48 per gallon, Benjamin Moore, benjaminmoore.ca.

the high-low mix

1. LOW The funky brass chandelier was a DIY kit ordered from the States that only cost $250.

2. HIGH An original piece of art is well worth the investment, and this particular painting offers the black and white office a refreshing hit of colour.

3. HIGH Custom wall panelling both defines the space and blends with the house's traditional architectural elements.

4. LOW The desk is an IKEA hack. "We spray-painted the steel legs a gold colour to look like brass," says homeowner Remy Lang.

5. HIGH Iconic Mid-Century Modern pieces like the Eames chair never go out of style.

6. HIGH A few choice accessories like the black globe enhance the room's study-like vibe.

7. LOW The walnut credenza, which provides warmth and incredible storage ("It's like our own mini Staples in there," says Remy) was purchased off Craigslist for $400.

PHOTOGRAPHY, MICHAEL GRAYDON; STYLING, CHRISTINE HANLON

2 girly glam

THE LOOK

Playful and feminine

THE DECORATING IDEA

A mirror-mosaic antelope head serves as a glitzy statement piece, while colourful wallpaper creates a dramatic focal point in the space.

Rashell Gouwenberg wanted a room of her own when she and her husband built their 3,400-square-foot home on five acres of land outside Fort Langley, B.C., four years ago. So in her 10-by-12-foot second-floor office, with the help of Leah Balderson of Vancouver's Peridot Decorative Homewear, she deviated from the more subtle neutrals incorporated throughout the rest of the house and went all out. (At the time, Rashell was working in sales and marketing for a Vancouver developer, but she now co-owns the popular housewares store with Leah.) "I wanted to have fun," says Rashell. "That's why I picked such a bold wallpaper. And the glammy antelope head was definitely the starting point. It's so cool and unexpected."

DESIGN, Peridot Decorative Homewear, peridotdecorativehomewear.ca; **ARCHITECTURE,** 3G Architecture; **CONTRACTING,** Carerra Projects; Silver Satin OC-26 **WALL PAINT,** Benjamin Moore; **WALLPAPER, DESK, OFFICE CHAIR, TABLE LAMP, ANIMAL HEAD, BOXES, BOOKS,** Peridot Decorative Homewear; **RUG,** HomeSense.

get the look!
functional + decorative

Horseshoe **BOOKEND,** $150 US per pair, Jayson Home, jaysonhome.com.

Lacquer **STORAGE BOXES** in White, $195 per set of 2, Elte, elte.com.

Carl Robinson Edition 2 Brittania **WALLPAPER** in 11, $20 per yard, Peridot Decorative Homewear, peridotdecorativehomewear.ca.

PHOTOGRAPHY, TRACEY AYTON

the high-low mix

1. HIGH The chic mirror-mosaic antelope head was the jumping-off point for the room's fun, feminine look.

2. HIGH Covering two walls, the vinyl designer wallpaper offers a burst of pretty pastel colour.

3. LOW Vintage brass bookends, which homeowner Rashell Gouwenberg found at an antiques shop, allude to her equestrian background and impart a personal touch.

4. HIGH The hammered-brass lamp pierced with quartz complements the room's luxe vibe.

5. LOW Instead of buying a traditional large desk, Rashell used a less expensive clean-lined dining table. "Because there are built-ins in the closet for my books, printer and other items, I was able to have a desk without drawers," she says.

6. LOW The chenille shag rug looks more luxurious than its price tag.

7. HIGH A set of textural snakeskin boxes provides accessible storage.

3 worldly wonder

THE LOOK

Masculine and moody

THE DECORATING IDEA

The charcoal grey wall colour lends this small home office a sophisticated, cozy feel.

The dark wall colour in Monica Dyer and Drew Elliott's 10-by-10-foot second-floor home office serves as a slight departure from the rest of their all-white Toronto Victorian rowhouse, which they renovated top to bottom five years ago. "It's a relatively small space, so we got experimental," says Monica. Inspired by the comfortable, masculine aesthetic of places like traditional libraries, time-honoured university offices and old-school gentlemen's clubs, the couple (Monica works for UN Women and Drew is an alternative-energy developer) wanted to ensure the space was as layered and character-filled as the other rooms in the house. "Even though it's dark, it's still a neutral backdrop for all our collections, textiles and art," says Monica.

Flint **WALL PAINT,** Restoration Hardware; **FILING CABINETS,** Pottery Barn; custom **DESKTOP,** reclaimed-wood **CABINET,** Hardware Interiors Studio; **OFFICE CHAIR,** Office & Shop Furniture; *Terracotta Army* **ARTWORK,** Joyce Lau; *Being Had No. 2* **ARTWORK** (opposite desk), Katie Bond Pretti.

get the look!
functional + decorative

Antique-look **GLOBE,** $100, Indigo, indigo.ca.

Bedford 3-Drawer **FILING CABINET** in Black, $588, Pottery Barn, potterybarn.com.

Flint **WALL PAINT,** $45 US per gallon, Restoration Hardware, rh.com.

PHOTOGRAPHY, MICHAEL GRAYDON

FOR SOURCES, SEE OUR WORKBOOK

the high-low mix

1. LOW Found on Etsy, the black-framed print lends contrast and whimsy.

2. LOW Old books purchased off eBay go a long way toward creating an intimate, library-like feel.

3. LOW Homeowners Monica Dyer and Drew Elliott bought the unique globe from an antiques store in Port Hope, Ont.

4. LOW A piece of wood, which cost about $100, placed on top of two filing cabinets creates a substantial desk for less.

5. LOW The couple picked up the antique kilim on a trip to Morocco. "It was a real deal," says Monica.

6. HIGH The artwork depicting the Terracotta Warriors is made of layers of paper, creating a 3-D effect that adds dimension to the space.

7. LOW Antiques market finds like the brass candlesticks are a low-cost way to build in richness.

8. HIGH A piece that will last a lifetime, a cabinet made of reclaimed barnboard lends character and provides ample storage.

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THE FASHION-FORWARD CLOSET

As a single mother of five boys, Erica Cook, the Calgary designer and blogger behind Moth Design, craved an orderly, feminine corner of the house that was all her own. So she transformed her bedroom's two closets, designating one for colourful items and the other for black and white pieces. "It's all about finding beauty in the mundane," she explains. Here's how Erica styled her IKEA storage systems to look like high-end boutiques.

TEXT BETH HITCHCOCK

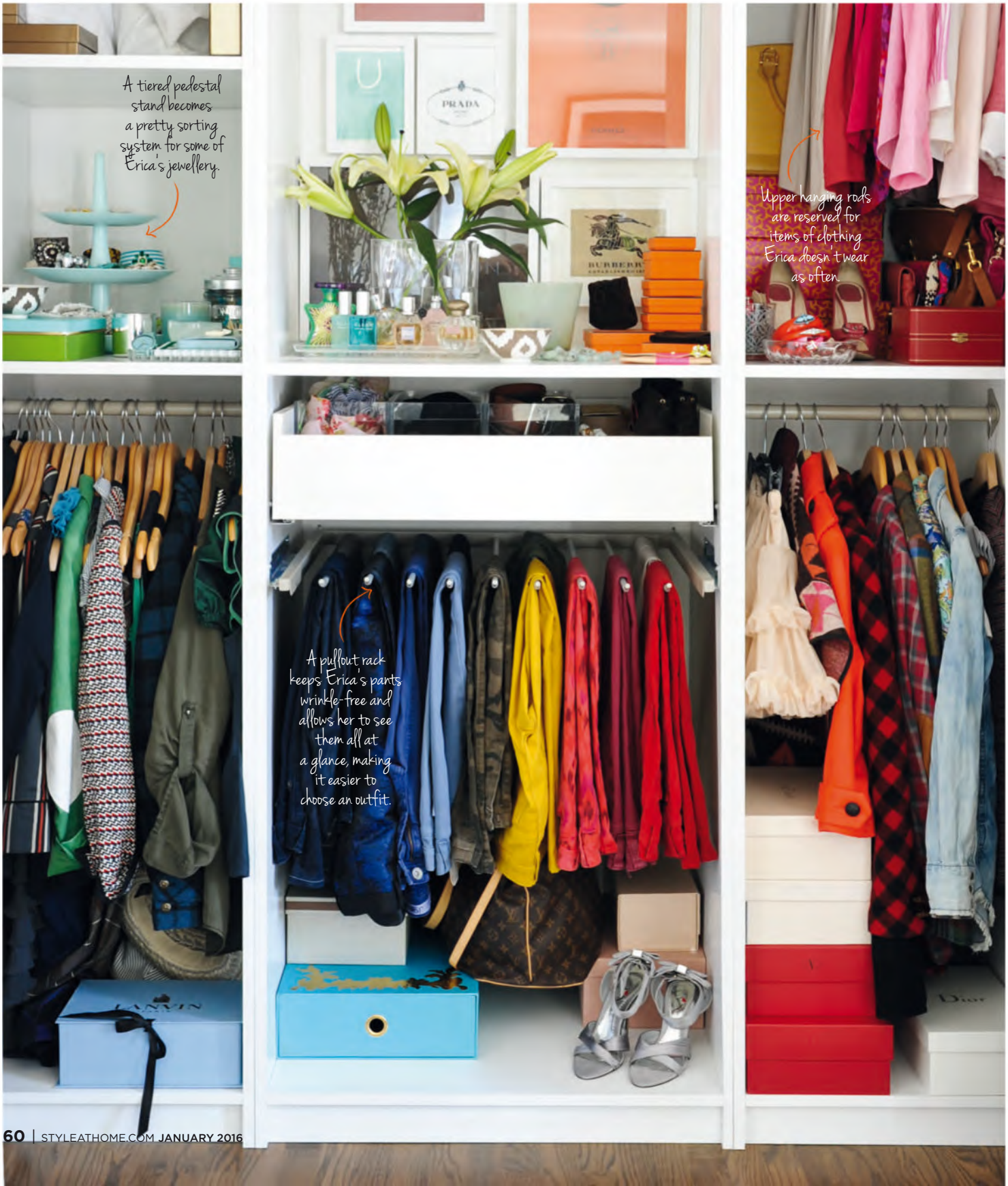
PHOTOGRAPHY TRACEY AYTON

Turn to see what's concealed behind closed doors.

PHOTOGRAPHY, ISTOCKPHOTO

FULL COLOUR

Erica's weekend wardrobe fills up the multi-hued closet. She sacrificed shelving in the middle to display her perfume and collection of framed shopping bags that represent special or significant purchases. "They're like postcards to me," she says.



BLACK & WHITE

The second closet, which contains formal pieces, is a true reflection of Erica's aesthetic. "I relish the high contrast of a black and white scheme," she says. "Nearly my whole house is black and white!" Touches of lacquer and metal play up the glam factor.

COLOURFUL DETAILS

Long necklaces won't get tangled when stored in separate bowls.

"When you place an item on a tray or a dish, it's like giving the piece its own little stage," says Erica of her artful vignettes.

Bright orange boxes add pop to an eye-catching display.

"I didn't want my belts rattling around on the back of a door, so I chose to roll them up instead," says Erica.

MONOCHROMATIC DETAILS

"Because acrylic is clear, it doesn't feel like it's taking up any space," says Erica, who scooped up these boxes from a clothing store that was closing its doors.

Save the closed storage for essentials and put sparkle on display.

A long black porcelain tray is perfectly proportioned to hold Erica's watches.

Erica has specific criteria for the trays and bowls she chooses: "I like vessels that are feminine but crisp and can bounce around some light."

TEXT BRITTANY DEVENYI | **PHOTOGRAPHY** CARINA OLANDER

STYLING ANNA TRUELSEN

A family home in southern Sweden proves that contemporary design has a place in the quiet countryside.

In Perfect Harmony

At first glance, Maria and Andreas Wiklund's Swedish home looks like it was plucked from an urban streetscape and planted on a sloping hill in a tiny pastoral town. The modern 2,220-square-foot residence, which the couple built from the ground up, backs onto a gleaming birch grove and is guarded by a landscaped rock wall and a row of young hedges – nature's equivalent of a white picket fence. Peer in a little closer, however, and you'll notice that the predominantly white and black interior is punctuated with natural elements, giving the space an old-meets-new feel that can be easily emulated. Here's how.

WITH FILES FROM ANNA TRUELSEN

BUDGET TIP: *Create contrast in a neutral space by painting old furniture a bold hue and mixing in coordinating DIY accents.*

1. **PUBLIC DISPLAY** An unfussy vignette of earthy accents graces the home's entryway – proof that the key to taking a modern space from sterile to soulful is all in the details.

2. **SIMPLE LIFE** You know a home has captured the essence of Scandi decor when it embraces minimalism but still creates impact. Here, the living room's stark white palette is punched up with dramatic hits of black.

3. **RUGGED RICHES** The living room's crisp white walls, expansive windows and peaked sky-high ceiling allow natural light to bounce around freely, while bleached-oak flooring and a cluster of olive trees direct attention to the space's main showpiece: the stretch of forest just beyond.

4

BUDGET TIP: *Adopt a minimalist mindset to be practical with purchases, control clutter and keep your space crisp and clean.*

5

4. CLEAN SLATE This bright, clean-lined kitchen has the same appeal as a shiny new appliance that you can't help but experiment with all the time. Its neutral backdrop lets homeowner Maria Wiklund switch up the decor easily, as she often adds one-of-a-kind garage sale finds.

5. SECOND NATURE Nothing livens up a house quite like fresh greenery. In this case, potted plants lining a windowsill imbue the kitchen with warmth and connect it to the countryside.

6. GOOD COMPANY If every dining room looked onto a scenic birch grove, we're pretty sure TVs wouldn't exist. The soothing space emphasizes the importance of slowing down to appreciate your surroundings. Mismatched chairs add character and texture, making it seem as though the pieces were thoughtfully collected over time and not just placed there as part of a typical dining set.

BUDGET TIP:
Scour vintage shops for worldly pieces and put them on display to give a stylish space more character.

7. CAMP OUT To keep with the house's cabin-chic vibe, the homeowners opted for an ultra-sleek version of a traditional wood-burning stove and stowed logs and vintage items in an antique glass cabinet.

8. NEW LEAF The dining room's all-white scheme lets a vibrant green bouquet of blooms hold all the decor power. The simple accent is enough to make the family feel in sync with the outdoors each time they see it.

A navy sectional complements the colourful gallery wall in the living room. The artwork is a pared-down selection of the homeowner's vast collection.

DESIGN, Orsi Panos Interiors, orsi-panos.com; Cloud White CC-40 **WALL PAINT** (throughout), Benjamin Moore; **SECTIONAL,** Rousseau's; **STOOLS,** Bouclair; cowhide **RUG,** T.O. Leather Fashions; gold-leafed **CORBEL,** Edit; chevron- and triangle-print **TOSS CUSHIONS,** yellow **LUMBAR CUSHION,** West Elm; custom grey and yellow **TOSS CUSHIONS,** Orsi Panos Interiors.

TEXT JENNIFER HUGHES | **PHOTOGRAPHY** DONNA GRIFFITH

STYLING MORGAN LINDSAY

HOME ECONOMICS

Designer Orsi Panos gives this townhouse a colourful facelift on a modest budget.

RIGHT The ikat-patterned fabric on the living room armchair was chosen for its complementary yellow, navy and grey colour scheme. The black bookcase has a grey interior and houses the TV and treasured books and *objets*. Designer Orsi Panos turned the book spines inward so their multi-hued jackets wouldn't overwhelm the already colourful space.

BOOKCASE, Camlen Furniture; **ARMCHAIR,** Rousseau's; **SIDE TABLE,** HomeSense; **FLOOR LAMP, THROW,** Elte.

BELOW, FAR RIGHT Orsi sits in the townhome's kitchen.

"Bright and cheerful." That's what the owner of this townhouse in Courtice, Ont., was searching for in a new home. Since her previous abode was older, larger and surrounded by mature trees, she was struck by this 1,400-square-foot space with large windows, a well-designed layout and plentiful natural light. However, at 10 years old, the home's decor was dated, and its cheap builder-grade finishes weren't holding up – aesthetically or otherwise.

"We started the project almost from the first day she looked at the house in 2014," says designer Orsi Panos. And as soon as the homeowner, a retired teacher, took possession, the makeover began. Since the existing floor plan was wonderfully functional, no major construction or structural changes were necessary. "We did what was needed to update the finishes," says Orsi.

"The homeowner and I fell in love with this bold floral fabric for the banquette, so we decided to let it be the star of the kitchen's eat-in area," says Orsi. The dining chairs, which she had refinished, were part of an old set.

Custom **BANQUETTE BENCH,** Chris Palmer; **BANQUETTE UPHOLSTERY,** custom **TOSS CUSHIONS,** Orsi Panos Interiors; **BANQUETTE BACK CUSHION FABRIC, PENDANT LIGHT,** Rousseau's; custom **DINING TABLE,** Woodwork Studios; black & white **PLATE** with dot motif, West Elm; yellow **PLATE,** grey **PLATE,** Crate and Barrel; black & white striped **PLATE,** IKEA.

RIGHT Yellow chevron-patterned drapery brings a hit of bright, happy colour to the home's living room. Because the space is an atypical size, Orsi opted to layer two rugs rather than splurge on a custom one.

DRAPERY FABRIC, Kravet Canada; marble-look **RUG,** HomeSense; **PENDANT LIGHT,** Restoration Hardware.

BELOW, FAR RIGHT The kitchen's backsplash, countertops and floor remained the same, but new white Shaker-style cabinet doors give the space a major facelift.

Custom **CABINETRY DOORS,** Bliss Home Innovations; grey **VASES,** HomeSense.

Two bathrooms, however, required gut jobs to replace basic fixtures that showed a decade of wear. Throughout the main floor, walnut-stained oak floors were also an upgrade from poorly installed laminate and set the tone for a more sophisticated feel. In the kitchen, refacing the existing cabinets with Shaker-style doors gave the room a much-needed facelift with minimal cost. The backsplash, countertops and floors were left as is.

Orsi helped the homeowner edit her belongings down to what would work in the new house – with less square footage, she definitely needed fewer possessions overall and wanted a fresh start. "We kept some family heirlooms that meant a lot to her," Orsi explains. "And her extensive art collection was pared down to what looked great in the space." When shopping for new pieces, "the focus was on keeping things bright, fun and cheerful," says Orsi. "That's when all the yellow accents came in. Yellow is the ultimate sunny hue." Gold and brass accessories also provide a warm glow, while a generous selection of other accent colours gives the entire place a vibrant, happy persona. "The homeowner is such a busy and interesting person – her home is now a true reflection of that."

FOR SOURCES, SEE OUR WORKBOOK

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JANUARY 2016

PHOTOGRAPHY, DONNA GRIFFITH

THE YEAR OF LIVING FABULOUSLY

Great style begins with confidence, grows with experience and matures with time into a signature look that's all one's own. This year, we're celebrating the individual, the independent and the influential in decorating. Here's to an incomparable 2016!

Homeowner Tanya Krpan (pictured here) saved on accessories by loading the family room sectional with an assortment of ready-made toss cushions.

CONTRACTING, Dakota Holdings Custom Home Builders; Chantilly Lace OC-65 **WALL PAINT** (throughout, except living room and dining room), Benjamin Moore; custom **SECTIONAL,** Stylus; **SIDE TABLE,** Crate and Barrel; **RUG,** Gilt; white **TOSS CUSHION** with black trim, Pottery Barn; pink **TOSS CUSHION,** The Cross Decor & Design; sphere **OBJET,** West Elm; **FLOWERS** (throughout), Balconi Floral Design Studio.

LOW $
VINTAGE COFFEE TABLE

PARTY OF *five*

How one couple worked together to build their first family home from scratch.

TEXT BETH HITCHCOCK | **PHOTOGRAPHY** JANIS NICOLAY

Tanya isn't afraid to play with negative space, as seen in the home's grand entryway. "Normally, you'd expect a mirror or big piece of art hanging above the wainscotting," she says. Leaving the wall blank and layering small pieces on the console allows the millwork to shine.

CONSOLE, CB2; **RUG,** white **VASE,** burlap **ARTWORK,** West Elm; marbled-paper **ARTWORK,** Ben Skinner; **MIRROR,** HomeSense; **SCONCES,** Circa Lighting; gold **VASE,** Anthropologie; white **FRAME** (on floor), The Cross Decor & Design.

WHEN YOU'RE A DESIGNER WHO SPECIALIZES IN HIP EATERIES,

it's natural to be nervous about designing your first home, especially when it comes to the kitchen. "I definitely felt a lot of pressure because I'm known for my work in the restaurant business," says Tanya Krpan, design director for the popular North American restaurant chain Earls Kitchen + Bar. Throw in a spouse, Jure, who happens to be a builder and a baby on the way and you've almost got the makings of a reality show. But this one has a happy ending: "I did most of the interior, and Jure handled the construction," says Tanya. "We worked well together."

That was four years ago. Now, Tanya and Jure have three children – Ivan, 3, Cruz, 2, and five-month-old Belle – to fill up the 3,500-square-foot home that was their first co-production. The five-bedroom, six-bathroom house in Richmond, B.C., represents the couple's shared vision. "We wanted a clean aesthetic with classic elements," says Tanya. Though this might sound like a contradiction in terms, the neutral walls and black casement windows provide a fresh counterpoint to the home's traditional panelling and coffered ceilings.

The kitchen, of course, is the true star of the show. Tanya's restaurant-design pedigree shines through in the room's floor-to-ceiling tiles, mix of open and

OPPOSITE, TOP & BOTTOM The family room's classic-cool mix feels right for a young family. Tanya scored the vintage coffee table when her office was being redecorated.

Custom **ARMCHAIR,** Stylus; **CONSOLE,** Crate and Barrel; **ARTWORK** (left of fireplace), Ronan Boyle; marbled-paper **ARTWORK** (right of fireplace), Ben Skinner; **TABLE LAMP,** Light-Form; coral **THROW,** The Cross Decor & Design.

LEFT & RIGHT, TOP White Shaker-style cabinetry, bevelled subway tiles, a walnut island and brass hardware and light fixtures define Tanya and husband Jure's old-meets-new kitchen.

Custom **CABINETRY,** Dakota Holdings Custom Home Builders; **COUNTERTOPS,** Hari Stones; subway **WALL TILES,** Olympia Tile + Stone; **APPLIANCES,** Sub-Zero and Wolf; **FAUCET,** Blanco; **STOOLS,** Arteriors Home; **PENDANT LIGHTS,** Rejuvenation; **CABINETRY HARDWARE,** Richelieu Hardware.

RIGHT, MIDDLE Circular pieces from the floor to the ceiling bring a casual vibe to the eat-in area.

DINING CHAIRS, Workplace Resource; **RUG,** faux fur **THROW,** Serena & Lily; **PENDANT LIGHT,** Circa Lighting.

RIGHT, BOTTOM Cabinets with glass doors allow Tanya to display her favourite serving pieces and special glassware. She had the back of the cabinets tiled to highlight this focal point of the kitchen.

LEFT, MIDDLE Tanya and Jure – with their sons, Ivan, 3, and Cruz, 2 – have recently welcomed a baby girl named Belle.

LEFT, BOTTOM & RIGHT The living room's crisp white, grey and black scheme gets an energy boost from fresh greenery, pops of pink and plenty of pattern – check out the Moroccan-style rug, the ikat-print and chevron-patterned toss cushions and the graphic stool fabric.

Gray Owl OC-52 **WALL PAINT,** Benjamin Moore; custom **SOFA, SLIPPER CHAIR UPHOLSTERY, STOOL,** Stylus; **SLIPPER CHAIRS,** The Cross Decor & Design; **COFFEE TABLE,** Room & Board; Schumacher **STOOL FABRIC,** AnneStar; **RUG,** green landscape **PRINT,** dark rose **TOSS CUSHION,** sphere **OBJET,** West Elm; Un Deux Trois **PRINT,** Rifle Paper Co.; **CHANDELIER,** Jonathan Adler; **FLOOR LAMP,** LightForm; **TOSS CUSHION** with tassels, Anthropologie; pink **TOSS CUSHION,** Indigo; ikat-print **TOSS CUSHION,** Pottery Barn; pink **THROW,** Gilt.

OPPOSITE, TOP In the dining room, Tanya likes the juxtaposition of the modern Sputnik-inspired chandelier with the traditional coffered ceiling. The artwork was a DIY project Tanya and Jure painted together on her 30th birthday.

Gray Owl OC-52 **WALL PAINT,** Benjamin Moore; **DINING TABLE,** Restoration Hardware; **DINING CHAIRS,** Stylus; **RUG,** Serena & Lily; **CHANDELIER,** Jonathan Adler.

OPPOSITE, BOTTOM Black casement windows and decorative accents create contrast in the neutral space.

closed storage and high-end appliances. She opted for white Shaker-style cabinetry and warmed up the space with a walnut island and brass hardware and fixtures.

Another bistro-inspired touch was her choice of dark honed-limestone tiles for most of the main floor. "The tile grounds the space since there's an abundance of white everywhere," Tanya explains. "And it's proven great for hiding dirt."

Everything in the Krpans' home is designed for everyday life and entertaining, from the large sectional in the family room to the round tables in the dining room and the kitchen's eat-in area. "It's more social to sit at a round table," says Tanya. "You see everyone's faces."

To offset the costs of the more expensive permanent elements, Tanya was meticulous with her decorating budget. She incorporated secondhand pieces, such as the family room coffee table, and sourced inexpensive art for the living room mantel. Affordable colourful accessories add youthful edginess to the living spaces. "I love the femininity that the splashes of pink add to the living room and family room," she says. "Plus, by the time I got to the decorating, I was living with three boys!"

Though this house has been well loved for years, there's a sequel in the works: Tanya and Jure are in the process of building a new home. "We'll keep some of the same elements but go a little more modern in the kitchen," says Tanya. We'll definitely stay tuned.

FOR SOURCES,
SEE OUR WORKBOOK

"Never underestimate the power of paint and fabric," says decorator Tim Lam of the caned barrel-back chairs he upgraded from garage sale finds to favourite pieces in the living room. On the flip side, the sophisticated sofa is a Sarah Richardson original found on Kijiji that needed only a quick cleaning.

DESIGN, Design Maze, designmaze-tim.blogspot.ca; Giotto **WALLPAPER** (similar), Romo Fabrics & Wallcoverings; **SIDE-CHAIR FABRICS,** Robert Allen; vintage **COFFEE TABLE,** Tribute Decor; custom **DRAPERY,** geometric-print **TOSS CUSHION FABRIC,** Tonic Living; **RUG,** canvas bird **PRINT, TABLE LAMP, TRAY,** agate **COASTERS,** HomeSense; blue velvet **TOSS CUSHION FABRIC,** Designer Fabrics; marble-look **TOSS CUSHION,** West Elm; brass sea urchin **SCULPTURE,** Morba.

CONDO 1

Tim's Refined Eclectic

LOVE *is in the* AIR

How to decorate for the one you love (when the one you love doesn't exactly love decor).

TEXT SARA CATION | **PHOTOGRAPHY** DONNA GRIFFITH | **STYLING** MORGAN LINDSAY

What's love got to do with it? Judging by the look of this Waterloo, Ont., condo, quite a lot, actually. The approximately 800-square-foot unit owned by engineer Chris Gabriel was designed by his partner of eight years, blogger and decorator Tim Lam. "Chris absolutely adores the space now," says Tim, "but if it were left up to him, the condo probably wouldn't look like this at all. It certainly wouldn't be as decorated." Because where →

LEFT Tim insisted that the kitchen's brown cabinetry, brown granite countertop and blue glass backsplash, which homeowner Chris Gabriel inherited with the condo, had to go. Though upgrading the countertop, replacing the backsplash, updating the faucet to a showpiece and adding the slide-in range was a bit of a splurge, the couple cut costs by simply repainting the existing cabinetry and applying a DIY barnboard treatment to the peninsula's base.

Front Facade P5226-24 **UPPER CABINETRY PAINT,** Para Paints; quartz **COUNTERTOP,** Natural Stone City; **BACKSPLASH TILES,** Creekside Tile; **RANGE,** TA Appliance; **FAUCET,** Brizo; barnboard **PANELS,** Stikwood; **RUGS, STOCKPOT,** HomeSense; **CABINETRY HARDWARE,** Upper Canada Specialty Hardware; square **CUTTING BOARD** with rounded edges, grey **BOWL,** Indigo.

LEFT Chris (left) is from Germany and had planned to return there, but he met and fell in love with Tim and hasn't looked back since.

ABOVE Though country charm isn't exactly in Tim's wheelhouse, he wanted to indulge Chris's style throughout the space – and that's especially visible in the dining room, which doubles as an office. "That door is hands-down my favourite piece in the room," says Tim, who found it at the Habitat for Humanity ReStore for around $100. "And I got it just like that – I didn't have to refinish it or anything." He did, however, tape Alanna Cavanagh's silk-screened artwork in the window to hide the stuff inside (which includes pantry and office staples).

Sandberg Wallpaper Waldemar **WALLPAPER,** Örling & Wu; Front Facade P5226-24 **WALL PAINT,** Para Paints; **DINING TABLE, TABLE RUNNER,** HomeSense; **DINING CHAIRS, BANQUETTE,** Sarah Richardson Design; *Empty Belly* **ARTWORK,** Alanna Cavanagh; **CHANDELIER,** West Elm; custom yellow **TOSS CUSHION,** Tonic Living; custom grey **TOSS CUSHIONS,** Fine Interiors by Susan; **BOWL, PLATES, PITCHER,** Indigo.

The sideboard in the living room offers a nod to one of Chris's desired elements: natural wood. Above it, the gallery wall displays artwork and travel mementoes the couple has amassed over time, including a quirky cuckoo clock that references the couple's shared affinity for birds.

Major Reno P5226-14 **WALL PAINT,** Para Paints; **SIDEBOARD,** Gus Modern; white-painted coral **ARTWORK,** black & white striped **BOX,** HomeSense; dog **PRINT,** Elte; *Small Brogue Shoe* **ARTWORK,** *Sail Away* **ARTWORK,** Alanna Cavanagh; seagull **PRINT,** Carococo; **CLOCK,** Suite 22 Interiors.

"Chris likes **RUSTIC SIMPLICITY,** and I gravitate to **MORE POLISHED AND REFINED SPACES.**"

The bedroom's soothing grey, yellow and white palette allowed Tim to play with pattern, from diamonds to stripes to polka dots. Asian-inspired elements like the faux bamboo nightstands and pagoda-shaped table lamps add elegance to the geometric look.

Kenneth James **WALLPAPER,** Primetime Paint & Paper; **BED FRAME** (painted), IKEA; **HEADBOARD FABRIC,** Kravet Canada; polka-dot **DRAPERY FABRIC,** Tonic Living; **DUVET COVER,** HomeSense; striped **SHEET SET, RUG,** West Elm; dog **PRINT,** Elte; **TABLE LAMPS,** Cabin Boy; custom fretwork-patterned **TOSS CUSHION,** Fine Interiors by Susan; custom botanical-print **TOSS CUSHIONS,** Switch Studio.

HIGH $$
CUSTOM HEADBOARD

TIM LOVES

CHINOISERIE ACCENTS

+

WHIMSICAL WALLPAPER

+

PLAYFUL PATTERNS

= HIS SIGNATURE **REFINED ECLECTIC** STYLE

LEFT A tiny cheater ensuite with doors leading to both the living area and the bedroom left little wall space, so Tim had the bedroom door replaced with a wall, which now accommodates artwork and a towel bar. The builder-basic vanity was cleverly customized with a brass-coated toe kick for a floating effect, while the glitzy cream and gold bird wallpaper casts a glamorous glow. Daydream **WALLPAPER,** Hygge & West; Major Reno P5226-14 **WALL PAINT,** Para Paints; quartz **COUNTERTOP,** Natural Stone City; **FAUCET, TOWEL RING,** Brizo; custom **TOE KICK,** Anvil & Co.; **SCONCES,** Shop 219; **MIRROR, WASTE BASKET,** HomeSense; striped hammam **HAND TOWEL,** West Elm.

BELOW The high-gloss dark grey wall paint in the bedroom acts as a luscious counterpoint to the suble texture of the grasscloth on the feature wall behind the bed. The herringbone throw is a souvenir from Chris's hometown in Germany. Film Festival P5221-41 **WALL PAINT,** Para Paints; **ARMCHAIR,** Sarah Richardson Design; **SIDE TABLE,** Elte; **FLOOR LAMP,** Jonathan Adler; custom **LUMBAR CUSHION,** Fine Interiors by Susan.

FOR SOURCES, SEE OUR WORKBOOK

Chris is a little bit country, Tim is all city. "Chris likes rustic simplicity, and I gravitate to more polished and refined spaces," says Tim. And who better to steer you in the right decorative direction than the one you love?

Case in point is the living room. Chris didn't want one at all – he thought it should instead be converted into a spacious office, with an added wall closing it off from the kitchen. But Tim convinced him that the dining room could double as a chic and cheerful workspace, allowing the living room to reach its full potential.

The starting point for the room – and subsequently the rest of the condo – was the Ming dragon drapery fabric. "When I showed it to Chris, he was so excited," says Tim. "I was actually a bit surprised that he went for it. I joked, 'Quick! We have to buy it before you change your mind.'"

But this push and pull didn't define the whole design process. Chris's love of natural wood comes through in accents like the living room coffee table, the base of the kitchen peninsula and the pantry door in the dining room. To accommodate Chris's passion for entertaining, Tim incorporated a host of seating areas to encourage conversation. And, of course, Chris had final say over everything – even all that wallpaper.

Wallpaper in every room is something Tim really pushed for, even though Chris associated it with dated interiors. "My biggest moment was when I converted him," says Tim. "When the first strip of bathroom wallpaper went up, Chris emphatically exclaimed, 'Oh, that looks great!' The condo is the perfect mix of the two of us – and I'm proud to say we both love it."

CONDO 2

Olivia's Refined Eclectic

BLUE AMBITION

Designer Olivia Hnatyshin has a case of the blues... but in the best way possible.

TEXT SARA CATION

PHOTOGRAPHY STACEY VAN BERKEL

The living room's custom sofa was one of homeowner Olivia Hnatyshin's first investment pieces. "It fits four or five people comfortably," she says, "so it's perfect on movie nights." Whether it's a cocktail party or a casual get-together, the young designer loves to host.

DESIGN, Olivia Lauren Interior Design, olivialaurendesign.com; **CONTRACTING,** MBKL Custom Contracting; **SOFA, ARMCHAIR,** Sarah Richardson Design; **SOFA & ARMCHAIR FABRICS,** Designer Fabrics; **COFFEE TABLE, DRAPERY** (customized), IKEA; Schumacher Mary McDonald **DRAPERY TRIM,** Bilbrough & Co.; **SIDE TABLES,** West Elm; **RUG,** Dash & Albert Rug Company; **TABLE LAMPS, THROW,** HomeSense; blue **VASE,** small navy **BOWL,** glass **DISPLAY CASE,** Indigo.

OPPOSITE Even though her Toronto condo is small, Olivia made room for her hobby by incorporating her childhood piano into the hallway. "I play it all the time," she says. "And I haven't had a noise complaint yet!"

Anna French Spot On **WALLPAPER** (throughout main living area), Lee Jofa; Marianna's Aria 72BG 75/023 **LOWER WALL PAINT,** Drifting Snow 10BB 83/014 **CHAIR RAIL & TRIM PAINT,** CIL Paint; **BENCH,** shadow box **ARTWORK,** HomeSense; **TABLE LAMPS,** Ralph Lauren Home; horse **SCULPTURE,** Christie's Antique Show.

To say that Olivia Hnatyshin is ambitious is an understatement. At the age of 28, she has already worked as a designer for a leading Canadian design firm, been a producer on one of the country's top television talk shows, began her own decor company and started writing a *Sex and the City*-meets-*The Devil Wears Prada* novel about the design world... not to mention, she's a talented amateur singer-songwriter who was once a contestant on *Canadian Idol*. No big deal.

"Sometimes if you go literal with a certain theme, **IT JUST WORKS.**"

LEFT "Sometimes if you go literal with a certain theme, it works," says Olivia, who typically mixes styles and eras, but in her entryway stuck to a strong Chinese influence, from the Foo dogs to the faux bamboo mirror and console. The leopard-print stool is actually Olivia's old piano bench updated with fresh fabric.

CONSOLE, MIRROR, marble geometric **SCULPTURE,** Vintage Fine Objects; **STOOL FABRIC,** Kravet Canada; **RUG,** IKEA; **UMBRELLA HOLDER,** Christie's Antique Show; **VASE,** Indigo; glass **PAPERWEIGHT,** West Elm.

OPPOSITE, LEFT The pagoda chair Olivia's sitting in is one of her favourite pieces in the home. "It's like my spirit animal," she says. It was a steal at $90 and already upholstered in a fabric she loves.

ARMCHAIR, Of Things Past; canvas **PRINT,** HomeSense.

OPPOSITE, TOP RIGHT Olivia didn't change much about the builder-grade white kitchen, apart from adding a portable island as extra counter space for cooking and entertaining. "Where do I draw the line when I know this isn't my forever space?" Olivia asked herself. For her, it proved to be the kitchen.

ISLAND, IKEA; **STOOLS,** Crate and Barrel; grey **VASE,** marble **CUTTING BOARD,** Indigo; **DISHWARE,** HomeSense.

OPPOSITE, BOTTOM RIGHT "Turquoise has been my favourite colour since I was little," says Olivia. "I'm always drawn to it." This is evidenced in the array of toss cushions on display on the living room sofa.

Zebra-print **TOSS CUSHION FABRIC,** Mark Alexander; blue velvet **TOSS CUSHION FABRIC,** Designer Fabrics; Kelly Wearstler leopard-print **TOSS CUSHION FABRIC,** Lee Jofa; Sarah Richardson diamond-patterned **TOSS CUSHION FABRIC,** Kravet Canada.

Just as ambitious is the decor of Olivia's 650-square-foot one-bedroom condo in downtown Toronto that she shares with her dog, Hunter, a Morkie. In her petite pad, styles range from traditional to contemporary, chinoiserie to Hollywood Regency – and though a novice might consider it a lot of look to apply to a small space, Olivia executed it with a refined elegance that only an expert could achieve.

Lots was done by hand. For example, Olivia scraped off the popcorn ceiling entirely on her own (after doing some trial and error, as well as watching a YouTube how-to video). But when Olivia's mom, who's also a designer, visited the next day, she almost cried upon seeing the results – and not out of happiness. "It must've looked like a cement box," says Olivia, remembering the blank space and plastic-covered furniture.

That same weekend, Olivia asked her handy mom for help putting up the chair rail. "She told me that I was going too far...but I had a vision," she says. And, indeed, the smoothed-out ceiling and chair rail make the contemporary condo more traditional and in line with Olivia's taste.

She also incorporated refinished vintage furniture, such as the sidechairs flanking the living room armoire. Their Hollywood Regency-style frames, painted in a dynamic shade of blue and paired with bold contemporary striped seats, are fresh and fashion-forward. "I like it when traditional elements are mixed with things you wouldn't normally see them with," Olivia explains.

Another enterprising effort was accommodating her childhood piano – which Olivia's parents threatened to give away if she didn't take. "It's just one big, non-functional piece of furniture," she says. "Creating a vignette around it with a tufted bench and pretty artwork helped distract from the fact that I have a huge, clunky black piano in my hall." And she's glad it's there: The stylish setting encourages her to play it whenever there's a spare moment in her busy life.

This ambitious young professional has recently moved to New York City to pursue a master's degree at Parsons the New School for Design while doing a full-time internship – and she's currently faced with decorating a space that's even smaller. So this time, she left the piano behind.

OLIVIA LOVES

VINTAGE BRASS

+

FAUX BAMBOO

+

BLUE TRANSFERWARE

=

HER SIGNATURE
REFINED ECLECTIC
STYLE

LOW
$
SECONDHAND
ARMOIRE

OPPOSITE, LEFT "Bedrooms should be a little more moody," says Olivia of the reason hers is imbued with deeper blues than the rest of the condo. The room's starting point was the Schumacher fabric on the lumbar cushion – the wallpaper and bedding fell easily into place after that. Above the bed, the gallery of small plates provides an unexpected spin on the traditional. Some are extras from Olivia's own dish set, others are from her mom and the light blue one in the centre is a hand-me-down from Olivia's paternal grandmother.

GP & J Baker Chillingham **WALLPAPER,** Lee Jofa; **SHEET SET,** white **COVERLET, TABLE LAMPS,** HomeSense; **CHANDELIER,** Green's Antiques; **EURO CUSHION FABRIC,** Designer Fabrics; Schumacher **LUMBAR CUSHION FABRIC,** Bilbrough & Co.

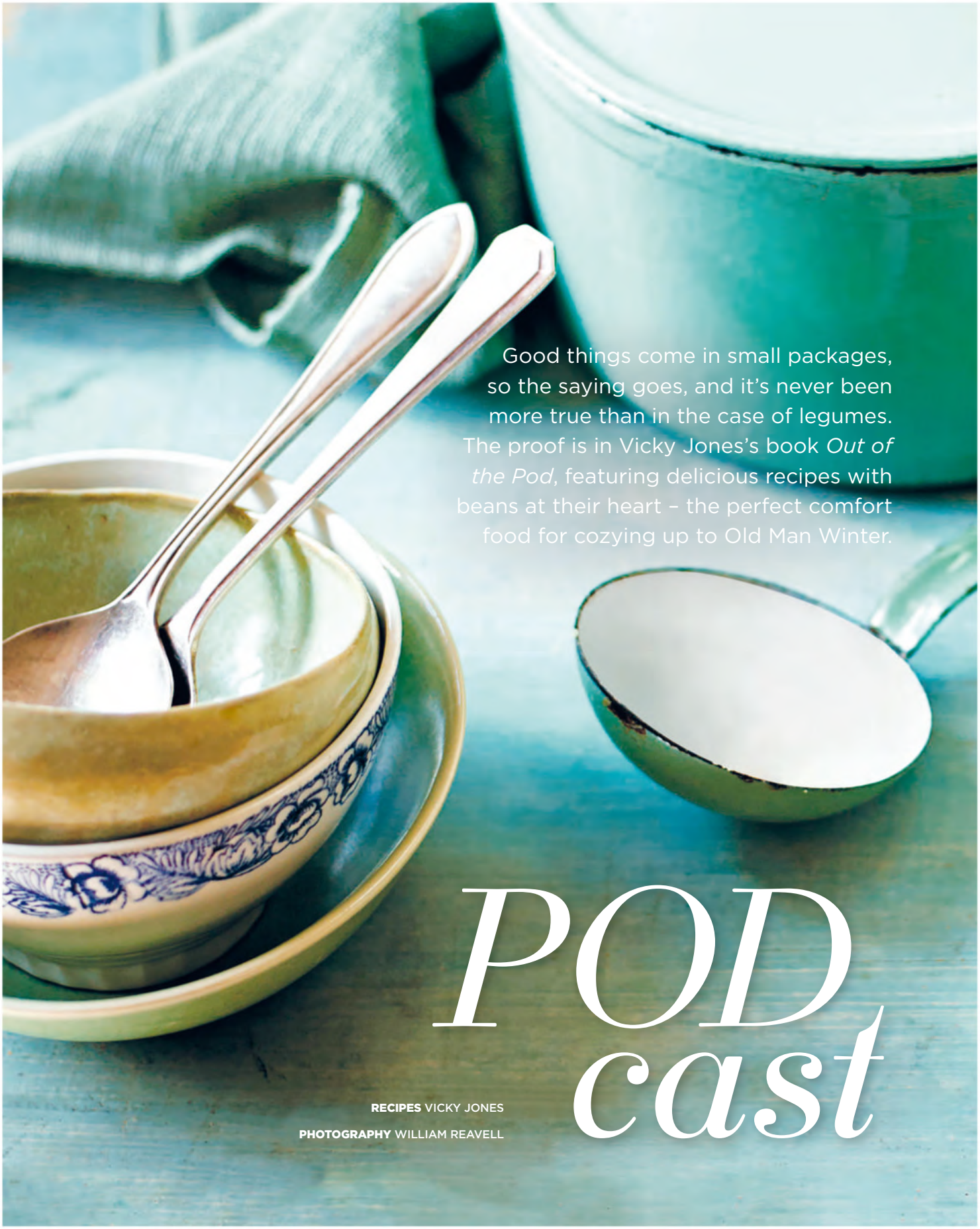
LEFT The armoire in the living room was a $300 antiques store score and acts as Olivia's media unit, where she tucks the TV out of sight when not in use. The artwork flanking it is also a creative money saver: framed coaster souvenirs from a trip to New York City.

ARMOIRE, Green's Antiques; striped **SIDECHAIR SEAT FABRIC,** Designer Fabrics; blue **TOSS CUSHIONS,** HomeSense.

BELOW The living room is awash in watery blues that are amplified in glass details for an airy, ethereal effect.

Schumacher blue patterned **TOSS CUSHION FABRIC,** Bilbrough & Co.; **THROW** (on armchair), HomeSense.

FOR SOURCES,
SEE OUR WORKBOOK



Good things come in small packages, so the saying goes, and it's never been more true than in the case of legumes. The proof is in Vicky Jones's book *Out of the Pod*, featuring delicious recipes with beans at their heart – the perfect comfort food for cozying up to Old Man Winter.

POD cast

RECIPES VICKY JONES

PHOTOGRAPHY WILLIAM REAVELL

EXCERPTED WITH PERMISSION FROM *OUT OF THE POD* BY VICKY JONES, PHOTOGRAPHY BY WILLIAM REAVELL (RYLAND, PETERS & SMALL)

SORREL & BEAN SOUP

BROAD BEAN SOUP

PREP & COOK TIME **1½ HOURS** | SERVES **4**

- 2 tbsp extra-virgin olive oil
- 1 onion, chopped
- 2 ribs celery, trimmed and chopped
- 1 cup dried broad beans, skinned
- 4 cups vegetable stock or water
- ½ tsp dried savoury (optional)
- 1 cup fresh or frozen broad beans, shelled
- 3 tomatoes
- 1 handful of fresh mint, chopped
- Salt and freshly ground black pepper to taste

Add the oil to a saucepan over low heat. Add the onion and celery and cook until soft; avoid browning.

When soft, add the dried broad beans to the pan, stir around, then add the stock and savoury, if using. Cover and bring to a boil, then keep at a boil for 10 minutes. Reduce the heat and simmer for a further 20 to 50 minutes, or until the beans have broken down into a mush.

Meanwhile, bring a small pot of water to a boil and blanch the fresh broad beans for 1 minute; remove them using a slotted spoon and skin them if the skins are tough. Scald the tomatoes in the same pot of boiling water, then skin and chop them.

Purée the dried bean and celery mixture until smooth using an immersion blender; stir in the fresh beans, tomatoes and mint and reheat gently. Season to taste with salt and pepper; serve.

SORREL & BEAN SOUP

PREP & COOK TIME **45 MINUTES** | SERVES **4**

- 2 tbsp unsalted butter
- 1 large leek, trimmed and finely chopped
- 2 to 3 medium shallots, chopped
- 1 medium potato, peeled and cubed
- 4 cups chicken or vegetable stock
- 1⅓ cups dried flageolet beans, soaked and cooked, or one 14-oz can, drained
- ½ cup fresh sorrel leaves, shredded
- 4 tbsp light cream, plus extra for serving
- Salt and freshly ground black pepper to taste

Melt the butter in a large saucepan over medium-high heat; add the leek and shallots and sweat together for approximately 10 minutes, being careful not to allow them to brown.

Add the potato and the stock and bring to a boil; cover the pan and simmer for about 20 minutes. Stir in half of the cooked beans.

Stir the shredded sorrel leaves into the soup and cook for 1 to 2 minutes, then purée the mixture using an immersion blender. Add the remaining whole beans and heat gently.

Stir in the cream, taste and season the soup with salt and pepper if desired; serve with an extra swirl of cream.

For more of Vicky Jones's legume recipes, read *Out of the Pod* (Ryland, Peters & Small, $31).

MOROCCAN HARIRA SOUP

PREP & COOK TIME **3 HOURS** | SERVES **6**

- 3 tbsp extra-virgin olive oil
- 1 300-g lamb shank
- ½ cup dried chickpeas, soaked for 24 hours and drained, or half 14-oz can, drained
- ½ cup dried green lentils, rinsed and drained
- 1 onion, finely chopped
- 3 ribs celery, trimmed and chopped
- 1 tsp turmeric
- 1 tsp saffron strands
- ½ tsp cinnamon
- ½ tsp ginger
- 1 tbsp tomato paste
- 2 tbsp all-purpose flour
- 4 tbsp chopped fresh cilantro
- 3 tbsp chopped fresh flat-leaf parsley
- Salt and freshly ground black pepper to taste
- Lemon quarters, for serving

Heat the oil in a large saucepan over medium-high heat. Add the lamb and brown on all sides. Add the chickpeas, lentils, onion, celery, spices and tomato paste. Add 6½ cups water, cover the pan and bring the mixture to a boil. Boil for 10 minutes, then reduce the heat and simmer until the chickpeas are tender and the meat is falling off the bone, 1½ to 2 hours.

Remove the lamb from the soup and strip the meat off the bone, then chop the meat and return it to the saucepan.

Place the flour in a small bowl. Slowly whisk in 1¼ cups cold water, whisking until the mixture is completely smooth, then stir into the soup. Return the soup to a boil and simmer for 10 minutes to thicken.

Stir in the chopped fresh herbs, season with salt and plenty of pepper and serve with lemon quarters on the side.

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Creekside Tile
creeksidetile.com

The Cross Decor & Design
thecrossdesign.com

D

Dakota Holdings Custom Home Builders
dakotahomes.ca

Dash & Albert Rug Company
dashandalbert.com

Delin Build
416-817-3326

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designmaze-tim.blogspot.ca

Design Within Reach
dwr.com

Designer Fabrics
designerfabrics.ca

E

Edit
editconsignment.com

Elte
elte.com

F

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fineinteriorsbysusan.com

G

Gilt
gilt.com

Grand Brass Lamp Parts
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Green's Antiques
greensantiques.ca

Gus Modern
gusmodern.com

H

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hardwareinteriors.com

Hari Stones
haristoneslimited.com

The Home Depot
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HomeSense
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hyggeandwest.com

I

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ikea.ca

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indigo.ca

J

Jonathan Adler
jonathanadler.com

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jossandmain.com

Joyce Lau
joycelauart.blogspot.ca

K

Katie Bond Pretti
katiebondpretti.com

Kravet Canada*
kravetcanada.com

L

Lee Jofa*
leejofa.com

LightForm
lightform.ca

Livingspace Interiors
livingspace.com

M

Mark Alexander
markalexander.com

MBKL Custom Contracting
416-836-7295

Ming Wo
mingwo.com

Morba
morba.ca

N

Natural Stone City
naturalstonecity.com

Niche Modern
nichemodern.com

O

Office & Shop Furniture
officeandshopfurniture.ca

Of Things Past
ofthingspast.com

Old World Kitchens & Custom Cabinets
oldworldkitchens.com

Olivia Lauren Interior Design
olivialaurendesign.com

Olympia Tile + Stone
olympiatile.com

Örling & Wu
orlingandwu.com

Orsi Panos Interiors
orsipanos.com

P

Para Paints
para.com

Peridot Decorative Homewear
peridotdecorativehome-wear.ca

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potterybarn.com

Primetime Paint & Paper
primetimepaint.ca

R

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ralphlaurenhome.com

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rejuvenation.com

Restoration Hardware
rh.com

Richelieu Hardware*
richelieu.com

Rifle Paper Co.
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robertallendesign.com

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rlrbc.com

Roman Bath Centre
romanbathcentre.com

Romo Fabrics & Wallcoverings*
romo.com

Ronan Boyle
ronanboyleart.com

Room & Board
roomandboard.com

Rousseau's
rousseaus.ca

Russell + Hazel
russellandhazel.com

S

Saltillo Imports
saltillo-tiles.com

Sarah Richardson Design
sarahrichardsondesign.com

Schoolhouse Electric & Supply Co.
schoolhouseelectric.com

Serena & Lily
serenaandlily.com

Shift Interiors
shift-interiors.com

Shop 219
shop219.com

Stikwood
stikwood.com

Stone Tile International
stone-tile.com

Stylus
stylussofas.com

Sub-Zero and Wolf
subzero-wolf.com

Suite 22 Interiors
suite22.ca

Switch Studio
switchstudio.ca

T

TA Appliance
taappliance.com

Taps Bath Centre
tapsbath.com

T.O. Leather Fashions
leathertoronto.com

Tonic Living
tonicliving.com

Trail Appliances
trailappliances.com

Tribute Decor
tributedecor.blogspot.ca

U

Upper Canada Specialty Hardware
ucsh.com

V

Vintage Fine Objects
vintagefineobjects.com

W

West Elm
westelm.com

Woodwork Studios
woodworkstudios.ca

Workplace Resource
wrcanada.com

Y

Yangyang Pan
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